

dice of their own minds, has been allowed to prevail too far against claims which are at once legitimate in themselves and connected with the highest interests of man.

In this Diocese we have experienced our full share of the effect of these principles upon the prosperity and efficiency of the Church. We have risen, indeed, by the Divine blessing, since the Church first assumed a consistent form under the auspices of one whom I forbear to name,—we have risen from very feeble beginnings, to a state in which we now number considerably above a hundred Clergymen, with many orderly and devout Congregations. Yet constituted as we are an integral portion of the Established Church of England, we have, from unpropitious circumstances, been left to occupy in the eye of the world, a dubious position and to appear in an equivocal character; our claims still unsettled, and the support of our Clergy partial, meagre and precarious, to the infinite detriment of religion and the manifest perpetuation of those very jealousies and contentions of which the apprehension has dictated this temporizing policy, but of which the existence is to be traced to the want of an avowed and decided maintenance of the Church-Establishment as it was originally planned. With you, however, my Reverend Brethren, I need not enter into particulars upon this topic. We have done, and, by God's help, shall continue to do our part, I trust in all charity and meekness, to urge and to uphold what we believe to be our own right, the glory of a Christian Government and the blessing of a land: the issue we must confide to the hands of God. What I am anxious to bring under your notice is, first, the great comfort and ground of thankfulness which we enjoy in all the difficulties and struggles of the Church, and secondly, the peculiar responsibility which we contract under the circumstances of the time.

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