

assume a new position. It would be with an ill grace, in any case, that we should bluster, (if I may use so familiar a word,) about our independence, unless we are liberally upholding the Church upon the spot and helping her operations. The loudness of our tone ought to be a little subdued upon this point, in some kind of accommodation to the amount of our personal sacrifices and exertions.

Upon a review, therefore, my brethren, of all these particulars, I have to say that, in having complied with the call made upon me to proceed to England and take part in the deliberations to be held upon the ecclesiastical arrangements in question, I have nothing whatever to regret. I went upon the service of the Church and under the abundant conviction that I was promoting both your interests and your wishes. But since the general measure has, for this time, failed, and we have opportunity given to confer together upon the subject and to consider the best measures to be taken for promoting the ends in view, before the Bill, or a modified Bill in substitution for it, can be carried through the Imperial Parliament, I invite you, in all confidence, to meet me for this and other purposes, according to the tenor of a Circular which I am sending off to the Clergy and of which you will all duly receive communication.* If I apprehended that the Anti-Church spirit which, to whatever confined extent among *ourselves*, has manifested itself in the agitation of these questions, would be infused in any prevailing degree, into our deliberations, I should feel satisfied that it would be happier for us not to meet at all, as, again, if I anticipated that the same effect would be largely developed by our being authorized to engage formally and legally in Synodical action, I should feel that it would be more advantageous for us to go without it till we can be better taught in the school of JESUS CHRIST. But I bless God that I think I know the temper of my Diocese at large, of which, among many other proofs, one eminently conspicuous, was afforded in the earnest and cordial dispositions of the meeting of our Clergy and Lay Delegates, upon the subject of the Clergy Reserves, in 1851; and as I am conscious to myself that I shall meet those two bodies, in no magisterial spirit and with the fullest sense of needing help and

* A copy of the Circular is subjoined to this Letter.