

Two principles seem to present themselves in determining the manner in which any Clergy should be established, so as to be most useful to the community. They ought to be so far dependant on the people, as to stimulate them to render their labours acceptable—they ought to be so far independant of them, as to give them a respectable station, and to add to the authority of their counsels. The interests of each congregation, more particularly, require the former of these conditions—the general interests of society, the latter.

These principles, in general correct, are especially so, when applied to the Protestant population of Canada, nor do I think, that although a measure, which should embrace them, might be somewhat difficult to form, it would by any means be impracticable. It is chiefly to show this, that I venture to suggest the following schemes.

Each Township in the Province of Upper-Canada, averages about 66,000 acres, giving thus 660 lots of 100 acres each, the usual size of farms. It may be presumed that two Protestant Clergymen will, for a long time, be sufficient to meet the wants of the population of each township. I would, therefore, propose to limit the number to that, and, whenever, in any township, 100, owners, or upwards, of lots of 100 acres, or upwards—each living on their lots, and having cleared, at least, 15 acres on them—came forward and produced proof that a Protestant Clergyman of the Church of England, or of Scotland, was settled among them, and that they paid him the sum of £125 currency—then £125 currency, should be given them from the general fund, arising from the rent of Clergy Reserves. This would secure each Clergyman an income of at least £250 currency, or about £200 sterling—a moderate—and yet, perhaps, a sufficient revenue, as a minimum, in such a country as Canada. A minister thus settled, ought not to be subject to be removed, but by the proper authorities, in the Church of which he might be a member. Further, for every six Clergymen, of either Church, so established in the Province, I would propose that one missionary, travelling from place to place, as he might be directed—by the Bishop, if of the Church of England—by the Presbytery, or Synod, if of the Church of Scotland—should have an allowance of £200 currency, from the general fund. After providing for these objects, any overplus that might remain, should be applied to the purposes of general education. There are said to be about 240 townships actually surveyed; these, were Clergymen placed throughout them, on this plan, would ultimately require 480 settled Ministers, and 80 Missionaries. 480 Ministers, at £125, would amount to £60,000—80 Missionaries, at £200, would require £16,000—altogether £76,000. The whole reserves, in the townships, contain upwards of 2,200,000 acres—and let us suppose that these, when the population of the Province has filled up the townships now surveyed, are rented at only one shilling per acre—this would give a revenue of upwards of £110,000, leaving a balance of more than £34,000 for the expense of collection, &c., and for the purposes of general education.