

Mr. James Charles Grant, again called in; and Examined.

WHEN you were last before the Committee you stated that you had reason to believe that some Act had passed the Legislature of Upper Canada, altering the law of primogeniture, have you since obtained any information upon that subject?— I have made inquiry upon the subject, and found that although a bill to that effect was introduced into the House of Assembly more than once it never became a law.

Is there any thing that you wish to state to the Committee in addition to your former evidence?—I am desirous of communicating to the Committee all the information which I possess respecting the religious statistics of the provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, and with permission of the Committee I shall proceed to make the following additions to the statement given in my former testimony.

In the western district of Upper Canada there are two Roman Catholic chapels and one church, four Episcopal Churches, viz. one at Sandwich, one at Chatham, one at Amherstburgh, and another at Colchester; the service at these churches is regular, with the exception of Colchester, where it is occasional; the number of attendants at Chatham is from 20 to 30, and at Amherstburgh and Chatham 50 to 60. There are five Episcopal Churches in the district of Niagara. The number of attendants at the church in the town of Niagara does not exceed 90, the average number at Queenston and Chippawa, and the other churches, is but 15; the Episcopal Churches at Queenston and St. Catherine's were originally built by Presbyterians, who by some unjustifiable means (it is said) were deprived of them. The Presbyterian congregation at St. Catherine's are about to build another. The names of the clergymen of the Scottish Secession having congregations in the district of Bathurst are Mr. Bell, at Perth, Mr. Buchanan, at Beckwith, and Mr. Gemmill, at Lunark. A church has been built at Lanark for a clergyman of the Church of Scotland. There are 590 Presbyterian communicants in Perth, Dalhousie and Beckwith. We have only received returns from four townships out of 17 in this district, viz. Drummond, Beckwith and Dalhousie, which contain a Presbyterian population of 2,903. At Bytown a lot of land has been allotted for a Scottish Church and minister's house, and where a congregation of not less than 300 could be formed at present. There are two Episcopal Churches in the district, one at Perth, the other at Richmond; the number of communicants at the former (in the town of Perth) is about 20, and at the latter about 10; but the mission of each, I believe, embraces several townships. Presbyterian Churches are required in every township. There is only one clergyman within the district of Gore in communion with the Church of Scotland; altogether there are eight congregations in the district. Answers have been received from some of the townships showing a population of 2,200.

The following statement has been communicated from three other townships in the same district. In the townships of Trafalgar, Nelson and Flamborough East, there are 250 heads of families attached to the Church of Scotland; about 15 Episcopalians, 75 of the Church of Rome, and the remainder of the population are Methodists and Baptists; in these townships the number of souls attached to the Presbyterian Church exceeds 1,300. There are several other townships in this district from which no returns have been obtained. In the town of Guelph there are upwards of 100 families, and several more in the adjoining township of Aramosa attached to the Presbyterian Church. In Streetville the number of Presbyterians exceeds 300 heads of families, representing 1,263 souls. The church at Ancaster, which Dr. Strachan describes in his chart as being episcopal, in which he states the service of the Church of England is regularly performed, is a free Protestant Church, and the only service regularly performed in it is by Mr. Sheed, a Scotch Presbyterian minister. The church in Barton was built conjointly by the Presbyterians and Episcopalians in the neighbourhood, and is open to the clergymen of either denomination. In Woolwich there never was a church, nor service of any denomination. There is not an Episcopal Church at Dundas, nor has service of the Church of England been performed there for the last four or five years. In the Indian village on the river Ouse there is an Episcopal Church, which in fact is the only one of that denomination in the district. This exhibits a state of things different from the Doctor's representation.

Although the Presbyterians in the Newcastle district exceed 2,000, there is not a clergyman of that church within it. The following has been furnished as

Mr.  
J. C. Grant.  
26 June 1839.