

No. 21.

COPY of a LETTER from Sir FREDERIC ROGERS, Bart., to H. WADDINGTON, Esq.

SIR,

Downing Street, May 16, 1866.

I HAVE laid before Mr. Secretary Cardwell your letter of the 5th instant,* enclosing copies of a letter from the Bishop of London, and of a petition from Miss Burdett Coutts addressed to the Queen, relative to Colonial Bishoprics; and I am to request that you will inform Secretary Sir George Grey that a Bill has been introduced into Parliament intended to relieve Colonial Bishops and the Clergy ordained by them from the principal legal difficulties resulting from the recent decisions of the Judicial Committee.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FREDERIC ROGERS.

H. Waddington, Esq.
&c. &c.

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No. 22.

No. 22.

COPY of a LETTER from the Right Honourable EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P., to the Right Reverend the LORD BISHOP OF LONDON.

MY LORD,

Downing Street, May 25, 1866.

I HAVE received from Secretary Sir George Grey your Lordship's letter of the 3rd instant.* I have also received and laid before the Queen the petition enclosed in that letter which has been addressed to Her Majesty by Miss Burdett Coutts, the munificent founder of more than one of the existing Bishoprics in Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions, respecting the intricate questions which have arisen out of the recent judgments of the Lords of the Judicial Committee of Privy Council in the case of Long v. the Bishop of Cape Town, and in the case of the Bishop of Natal.

The effect of those judgments on the status of Colonial Bishops and the position of the Colonial Church has engaged the anxious consideration of Her Majesty's Government. They are fully sensible of the advantage which the Colonial Episcopate derives, and as they hope will long continue to derive, from its connexion with the Established Church of this country, and would readily adopt any legitimate means of strengthening that connexion. But it would, in their opinion, be inconsistent with the settled principles of Colonial policy to establish in the Colonies by Imperial Legislation a prerogative in respect to ecclesiastical matters which the highest Court of Appeal has declared to have no existence in law. They have, however, caused a Bill to be framed, and to be introduced into Parliament, which, without interfering in matters which fall within the sphere of local legislation, will, as they hope, have the effect of placing the Church of England at greater liberty to extend and perpetuate its ministrations, throughout the Colonial Empire.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

The Right Reverend the Lord
Bishop of London.

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