

ceived and accepted regular calls from the congregations amongst whom they now officiate:—that they respectively hold bonds for their permanent support, securing to them, in the lowest instance, a stipend of £150 cy. per annum, which bonds are declared valid by an act of the Provincial Legislature; and that during their residence in this country they have never swerved from their fidelity and attachment to their mother Church by an union with any other denomination of professing Christians.

“That notwithstanding the comfort and satisfaction which your Memorialists enjoy amongst their own congregations, they feel the want of a more immediate connection with, and formal acknowledgement by their parent Church than they have yet attained—and that, as they are at present situated, they can only be considered on the same footing with dissenting bodies.

“That much the greater part of the population of Nova Scotia is Presbyterian, originally from Scotland and the north of Ireland, in communion with, or attached to the Church of Scotland, many of whom were obliged to join themselves to dissenters of various denominations, in consequence of having no ministers of that Church then in the Province. That necessarily your Memorialists had to contend with many difficulties, and surmount many obstacles, in the formation of their congregations, which it is not the object of this memorial to enumerate.

“That these difficulties, which in some measure limited the usefulness of your Memorialists, and injuriously affected the prosperity of your Church in this Colony, are now happily disappearing.

“That your Memorialists are strengthened and encouraged by the annual arrival of fellow-laborers from the Mother Church, properly qualified for the sacred office of the ministry: that every day more unequivocally evinces the continued attachment of their countrymen around them to that Church: that the increasing demands for their labors among new congregations formed under their superintendence, and the respect and attention manifested to your Memorialists by persons of the first rank and influence, afford satisfactory proofs of the general prepossession in favor of the Church to which they belong.

“Thus, increasing in numbers, and rising in general estimation, your Memorialists would most respectfully and dutifully submit to the consideration of your venerable Court, that in order to establish and perfect a commencement so auspicious, it is requisite and desirable that Memorialists should be invested by the General Assembly with powers which would enable them to exercise that authority over one another, and over their flocks, that are indispensably necessary for preserving the purity of the ministry, and ensuring the proper, faithful, and regular dispensation of Gospel ordinances, as well as due obedience to the laws of the Church.

“Your venerable Assembly will be more

fully satisfied of the propriety of such a measure, when informed that your Memorialists are the only denomination destitute of such a recognition by their parent Church.

“The Church of England has a regular establishment, consisting of a Bishop, Ecclesiastical Commissary, and above twenty Missionaries. The Secession Church has a Synod consisting of three Presbyteries, and upwards of about twenty ministers. The Methodists have their Conference of about eighteen Missionaries; and the Baptists their Association, containing a great many preachers: Your Memorialists alone are unconnected with each other by any legal tie; and are known to their Mother Church only as individuals thereof. They could not unite themselves together and assume the name and authority of a Presbytery, for the regulation of the affairs of your Church in this Province, without, in their own opinion, acting irregularly and unconstitutionally: and they know that their flocks would not willingly submit to an assumed authority from which there could be no appeal—whilst they are well assured of the cordial concurrence of their respective congregations with every measure which your Memorialists adopt to obtain a legal sanction.

“Deeply impressed with a conviction of the numerous advantages which would result both to themselves and to the interests of the Church in this Province from your Memorialists being acknowledged and constituted a Presbytery by the General Assembly, and earnestly desirous to draw closer the bands of duty and affection which unite them to their parent Church, your Memorialists have come to the resolution of respectfully soliciting your countenance, and your recognition of them as a Presbytery—this your Memorialists are encouraged to do with confident hopes of success, knowing the deep and lively interest which your venerable Assembly has ever taken in the prosperity of your national Church, even in the most remote quarters of the world. Your Memorialists feel assured that you are anxious to extend your protection to such ministers of your Church as have expatriated themselves for the purpose of disseminating those principles of piety and loyalty, which have often proved the bulwarks of the civil and religious liberties of their native land.

“Your Memorialists are further induced to make this application by reason of the favorable disposition to their views evinced by His Excellency Sir James Kempt, Lieut. Governor of this Province, and by several members of His Majesty's Council.

“Your Memorialists have also high authority to state, that if they are acknowledged as an Ecclesiastical Court in connection with the Parent Church, they may hope to receive the support of His Majesty's Government at home and of the local authorities of this Province.

“May it therefore please your Venerable Assembly to invest your Memorialists with such powers as may, in your wisdom, seem necessary, for the respectability, permanence