

It, we think it our duty to furnish our readers with a short statement of the causes which have led to this unfortunate dispute. In the 31st year of His late Majesty's reign, one seventh of the unconceded lands in Lower Canada and of the whole of Upper Canada was appropriated, by an Act of the Parliament of Great Britain, for the maintenance of "a Protestant Clergy" in these Provinces. This Act points out, in its various clauses relative to an Ecclesiastical establishment, the Clergy of the Church of England and none other. About two years after the passing of this Act, His Majesty, the more effectually to avail himself of its provisions; erected these Provinces into a Diocese and appointed a Bishop with perpetual succession to preside over its affairs; and subsequently, when the Clergy became sufficiently numerous, constituted the Bishop and them a Corporation with perpetual succession for the management of the Reserves. Hitherto the Bishop and his Clergy had gone on quietly, and without open opposition, in the work of planting the Church in this Diocese; and their right to the property allotted for that purpose was unquestioned. But the last act of the Imperial Government above-mentioned aroused the jealousy of another Protestant denomination, who forthwith commenced that system of aggression which has led to such violent animosity, and called forth the interference of our truly Apostolical Bishop. "It is the sincere desire of my heart, before God (says His Lordship,) without compromising the interests which I am bound to maintain, to allay the irritation and violence of feeling which every true Christian must grieve to see produced by a question of temporal provision and support." Our readers, we are persuaded, will agree with us in our decision that, in this deeply to be lamented business, the Clergy of the Church of England could not have been the aggressors; they will also, therefore, agree with us in the opinion that our good Bishop has spoken the language of the utmost Christian forbearance towards his adversaries, when he says "our own defenders may have occasionally been betrayed into some heat or impropriety, but I am not aware that we have ever attacked any party, and although the circumstance of our enjoying superior rights, might perhaps have led us to expect that we should not enjoy them unmolested, some of the attacks which we have sustained during the last few years are such as we could not have looked for from fellow-Christians.—* * * But the manner and spirit in which these attacks have been conducted are reprobated. I fully persuade myself, by the respectable members of other denominations, and the mischief will be made ultimately to return upon the heads of its authors."

Disclaiming all controversy on the merits both of the claim set up by the adversaries of the Church of England, and of the arguments urged by the Bishop in its defence (though we may be allowed to make the passing remark that they appear to us to be