

QUEBEC, 24th April, 1857.

SIR,—

As you waited upon me officially, a few days ago, though not of your own movement, but in consequence of some representations made to you by certain members of the Managing Committee of the St. George's Society, respecting the manner of performing the services of the Society's anniversary, I feel it incumbent upon me, in order to prevent any misapprehensions which might otherwise go abroad upon the subject, to address to you the remarks which here follow.

I must premise that I am not in the habit of exercising any kind of interference with the arrangements for service on St. George's day,—the Cathedral being placed, for the occasion, at the disposal of the Society, and the Choir making their preparations, upon which they bestow much time and pains, in concert with the Committee. Upon the approach of yesterday's celebration, as there had been found reason, before you spoke to me, to forego the intention of performing the full choral service of the Church of England (to which it appears that exception was taken by the gentlemen above mentioned, but which, as being *characteristically* a feature of *English* usages, had been thought, in other quarters, appropriate for the particular occasion,)—I judged it best to let the day pass off, before troubling you with any communication, or promoting any discussion upon the subject. But although I had nothing to do, nor had any of the clergy, with the original proposal for a regular choral service, I cannot, in the situation which it has pleased God that I should hold in His Church, allow it to be supposed for one moment, that I am a party to the condemnation of a known, recognised, established, hereditary practice of the Protestant Church of England, preserved to us uninterruptedly, except during the overthrow of the Church Establishment in the success of the Great Rebellion, from the times of the Reformation:—A practice which I have never entertained the idea of introducing as our established mode of worship here, but to which, *in itself*, in common with a vast proportion,—I suppose I may be warranted in saying the vast majority of our clergy and laity,—I profess myself sincerely and strongly attached.