

ever might be its extent, was properly the colony of Rupert's Land. It will be seen, by the following extract from the instructions drawn up for the Colonial Office of Charles II., by whom that Charter was granted, what was expected from Governors of colonies with respect to the Aborigines—"Forasmuch as most of our colonies do border upon the Indians, and peace is not to be expected without due observance and preservation of justice to them, you are, in our name, to command *all Governors* that they at no time give any just provocation to any of the said Indians that are at peace with us," &c. "With respect to Indians who do desire to put themselves under our protection that they be received. That the Governors do always friendly seek to oblige them. That they do not only carefully protect and defend them from adversaries, but that they *more especially take care* that none of our own subjects, nor any of their servants, do any way harm them. And that if any shall dare to offer any violence to them in their persons, goods, or possessions, the said Governors do severely punish the said injuries agreeably to justice and right. And you are to consider how the Indians and slaves may be best *instructed in and united* to the Christian religion; it being both for the honour of the Crown and of the Protestant religion itself, that all persons within any of our territories, *though never so remote*, should be taught the knowledge of God, and be made acquainted with the mysteries of salvation."

It remains for the Company to shew why the colony of Rupert's Land should be exempt from the operation of these instructions.

APPENDIX (K).

"These half-breeds," says Fitzgerald, p. 243, "are not to be despised or neglected. They are a fine race of men, combining the ready intelligence, that quickness in acquiring knowledge, and the desire for improvement which belong to civilized men, with the endurance, the enterprise, the intolerance of oppression, the determination to revenge, which are peculiar to the savage. Through the half-breed race the means are open for civilizing the whole country by acting on the Indian families who are related to them. If there were any real desire on the part of the Company to do so, the Indians could, by the influence which might thus be brought to act upon them, be induced to leave their wandering life, and quit the precarious subsistence of the chase for the surer livelihood to be drawn from the cultivation of the soil. Without this, there can be no hope of reclaiming the Indians: by it, that result might be secured."