

At a meeting of the Congregation, held on the 12th September, to take into consideration the foregoing letter, the Rector handed in a list of authorities in justification of the action he had taken, and is as follows:—

The First authority I produce in support of what I have done, is the 43d George 3, Cap. 6:

An act for the better and more effectual establishment of the Church of England in this Island. The 1st section of this act says:—

“Be it therefore enacted by the Lieut. Governor, Council and Assembly, That the sacred rites and ceremonies of Divine Worship, according to the Liturgy of the Church established by the laws of England, shall be deemed the fixed form of worship amongst us: and the place wherein such Liturgy shall be used, shall be respected and known by the name of the Church of England, as by law established. And that for the preservation of unity and purity of doctrine and discipline in the Church, and the right administration of Sacrament, no minister shall be admitted to officiate as a minister of the Church of England, but such as shall produce to the Governor, Lieut. Governor, or Commander-in-Chief for the time being, a testimonial that he hath been duly licensed by the Bishop of London, or by the Bishop of Nova Scotia, and shall publicly declare his assent and consent to the Book of Common Prayer, and shall subscribe to be conformable to the orders and constitutions of the Church of England, and the laws there established.”

According to this act, I conceive that the same laws, which from time to time govern the Church of England in the mother country, govern also the several churches in this Colony which are in connection with it, and that the several judgments of the Privy Council are binding upon its ministers.

If then a Bishop, in accordance with the Liturgy of the Church of England, has received no authority at his consecration for the use of a Pastoral Staff in the ministrations of his office in the church at home, he has received none for its use in the churches here.

2. My next authority is: That the alleged discretionary power of the Bishop, as referred to in the Preface to the Prayer Book, gives him no right to introduce any novelties, or unauthorized ceremonies, into our church. Here it is said:—“And forasmuch as nothing can almost be so plainly set forth, but doubts may arise in the use