

gratified in this Point, as it will be the Means of checking the Spirit of Litigation, by bringing their Disputes to a more speedy Issue and Determination.

I beg Leave further to remark to this Honourable House, that by the 33d Clause of the Bill, that Part of the Quebec Act is continued which authorized His Majesty to order the Tythes of the Lands and Possessions, occupied by Protestants, to be collected for the Purpose of making Provision for the Encouragement of the Protestant Religion. This, to People residing in Great Britain, may appear fair and proper, but it will, I hope, be allowed that Tythes are only due to the Church for the Services which the Clergy of that Church may or can perform to the Persons from whom these Tythes are claimed. Sir, there are Protestants settled in that Country on Farms 150 Miles distant from any Protestant Church or Minister, who from their Situation are deprived of the Benefit of the Ordinances, Ceremonies, or Services, of the Protestant Church; and it therefore appears to me that it will be unjust to compel them to pay Tythes, and to contribute towards supporting a Protestant Clergy, from whom they can derive no Assistance, no Advice, or Instruction. I do not wish to raise any Difficulties against a necessary Provision for the Establishment of a Protestant Clergy in the Province, it is a very desirable Object, and much wished for, and it has been Matter of Surprise that no Provision of that Kind has yet been made in the Province; the Recommendation of it to the Attention of Parliament, however, is a strong Proof of His Majesty's Attention to the present and future Happiness of His Subjects; but I have thought it my Duty to state the Circumstance. As it would be in the Nature of a partial Tax for a public Service, it might perhaps be proper to limit the Right of claiming Tythes in this Clause to a certain Distance from the Residence of the Protestant Clergy.—Say 30 Miles. Besides, I apprehend it would be proper to explain what is meant by Tythes, if it is understood that they shall be received according to the Rule followed by the Roman Catholic Clergy in the Province, or the Rule that is followed in England. I likewise beg Leave to submit to this Honourable House if it would not be proper to insert in the Clauses concerning future Grants of Lands a Power to authorize His Majesty, with the Consent and Advice of the Legislature of the Province, to change the Tenure of the Lands granted and now held under the Feudal Tenure, when required to do, by Petitions from the Proprietors for that Purpose: I mean that Government should, upon Petition, accept of the Surrender of the old Feudal Grants, and re-grant the same to the Proprietor again in Free and Common Socage. This being optional, and not compulsory, cannot meet with any Opposition; and in a short Time might be a happy Assistant in Anglizing the Colony, as it would by Degrees remove that detestable Badge, Vassalage.

I have now stated fully the Defects of the Bill as it at present stands. My Objections go principally against the following Clauses:

The establishing Two Independent Legislatures in the Province.

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