

exertion ; but the reward which they seek is not in the praise of men, and it is the value rather than the merit of their services to which I desire to solicit the attention of your Excellency. I do not speak here of those higher effects which constitute the ground and ultimate object of their ministry, but in proportion as means are taken for the extension of their influence, in such proportion, my Lord, I have no hesitation in saying—for the effect is every where sufficiently marked--that the loyalty, the good order, the steady habits, the peaceable and industrious deportment of the population will be promoted, and the ties strengthened which bind the Colony to the Parent State. Apart, also, from any consideration of preserving the supremacy of Britain over the Canadas, there is a sacred duty to be performed in laying such a foundation for the moral and religious character of the inhabitants in time to come as will best ensure their happiness and welfare ; and it is not for me to point out to your Excellency that it is now that this foundation must be laid. In the young settlements now struggling into existence, or beginning to develop the signs of prosperous improvement, we see the germ of a great and important future, which must be vitally affected by the mould given to the population in this early stage of its formation. Millions who are yet unborn will have cause to bless or to reproach the present Government of Britain, for the measures taken to provide for them those advantages, and to transmit to them those habits, principles, and attachments, which form the only sure basis of national happiness.

Up to this period, although not a few people have been lost to the Church from the want of her ministrations, and a far more extensive defection must inevitably follow, if things are left much longer upon their present footing ; yet, very generally, the privations which have been experienced in this respect have served to teach our congregations the full value of those privileges which are enjoyed at home. The importunate solicitations which I constantly receive from different quarters of the Province for the supply of Clerical services ; the overflowing warmth of feeling with which the Travelling Missionaries of the Church are greeted in their visits to the destitute settlements ; the marks of affection and respect towards my own office which I experienced throughout the Province ; the exertions made by the people, in a great number of instances, to erect Churches even without any definite prospect of a minister, and the examples in which this has been done by individuals at their own private expense ; the rapidly increasing circulation of the