

# THOUGHTS

—ON—

THE PRESENT STATE AND FUTURE PROSPECTS

—OF THE—

## Church of England in Canada.

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IN presuming to address my venerable and beloved diocesan and my reverend brethren, on a subject of such importance as that to which I here call their attention, I lay claim to no high official station ; to no extensive influence, which, of itself, would give weight to any opinions or suggestions I may offer, for none such do I possess. I only claim their forbearance, as one that has facts to state, and arguments to offer, till they have considered those facts, and weighed well those arguments. I wish to call their attention to things, which must *depend entirely* upon *themselves* for weight, and not to opinions, which might derive influence chiefly from the rank or character of him who holds them ; and therefore do I regret the less, that I possess not that influence, so desirable under other circumstances, assured as I am that my statements and suggestions will, on that very account, not be received, unless they find their own way to every man's judgment, and speak for themselves to every man's heart.

In looking at the state of our church, at the present time, and comparing it with what it was ten years ago, I would do violence to my own feelings, as well as to those of many others, were I to withhold that acknowledgment of devout gratitude, so justly due to her great Head, who has showered down upon her of his blessings, both temporal and spiritual. A certain, though limited provision has been made for her permanency in many parishes ; and, almost everywhere throughout the length and breadth of her borders, have her members come up more closely to the purity and holiness so striking in all her services. These mercies I would make the ground for calling the attention of those who love our Zion, to the wants and difficulties which *still* surround her. I would call the attention of those who have received these mercies, to the condition of those who have received them not. I would crave the attention of all, to the *necessity* which lies upon us to adopt