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regard, and of our attachment to the British Throne and to the Government of which you are the Administrator.

The grand object for which we are called, as ministers and rulers of the Church, is to preach the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ to our fellow-sinners, and it will be our aim, with all diligence and prayer, to lead our people in the path of duty and finally to the inheritance of a blessed immortality. To this great work we trust we shall be enabled to devote ourselves with a diligence and fidelity that our Divine Master will bless and approve.

It is known to your Excellency that at our late meeting in Kingston a number of our Brethren conceived it to be their duty to separate from us mainly on the ground of our connection with the Church of Scotland, and the responsibility which that connection appeared to them to involve concerning recent events in that Church.

We have no wish to conceal that differences of opinion exist among ourselves on these points, but being in full and undisputed possession of all the freedom and privileges necessary to a Christian Church, and apprehending no danger of interference on the part of the Civil Powers with our Spiritual Jurisdiction, we are thoroughly persuaded that this diversity of opinion is a proper subject of mutual forbearance, and no valid ground for separation.

The evils arising from religious dissensions, especially in this land, both as it respects the progress of the Gospel, and social order, are so manifest that we shall continue to use every just and reasonable means to bring back our Seceding Brethren into their former fellowship with us. We are perfectly agreed in our adherence to the same Standards of Doctrine, Discipline, and Worship,—and the sole point at issue between us is, not any thing arising from our circumstances in this colony, but from the judgment formed respecting the circumstances which occasioned the disruption in the Parent Church, and the mode in which we should act on that judgment.

We have not abandoned the hope that our Brethren who have left us may yet be brought to concur with us in thinking that diversity of opinion on the proceedings of the Parent Church does not warrant the breach of our Ecclesiastical

MONTREAL,
Monday,
Sept. 23, 1844.

Address to the
Governor General.