

## II.

## CLERGY RESERVED LANDS.

Copy of the Address of the House of Assembly of Upper Canada to His Majesty, on the subject of the Clergy Reserved Lands in that Country, and a Copy of Earl Bathurst's Answer thereto;—also, a Copy of the Resolutions of the House of Assembly, on 21st December 1826, respecting the Clergy reserved Lands.

To the KING's Most Excellent Majesty.

May it please Your Majesty,

**WE**, Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Upper Canada, in provincial parliament assembled, most humbly beg leave to approach Your Majesty, to express our sentiments on a subject of deep interest to Your faithful subjects of Upper Canada. We perceive by the provisions of an Act passed during the last session of the Imperial Parliament, that Your Majesty is empowered to order the appropriation of a further allotment of land within this province for the support and maintenance of a Protestant Clergy, in lieu of that portion of the lands already set apart for the purpose (called the Clergy Reserves), which has lately been or is about to be sold to the Canada Land Company; we would most reluctantly appear to Your Majesty as unfriendly to the cause of religion; but when we consider that one-seventh of all the surveyed lands within this province is already, by an Act passed in the thirty-first year of the reign of his late Majesty, applied to that object, and are of opinion, that the extent of the present reservation is injurious to the prosperity of the colony, we feel a strong desire that no further appropriation may be made, but that Your Majesty will be graciously pleased to submit to Your Parliament the expediency of repealing so much of the late Act as permits the said further allotment.

We further most humbly represent, Most Gracious Sovereign, that the lands set apart in this Province, for the maintenance and support of a Protestant Clergy, ought not to be enjoyed by any one denomination of Protestants, to the exclusion of their christian brethren of other denominations, equally conscientious in their respective modes of worshipping God, and equally entitled as dutiful and loyal subjects, to the protection of Your Majesty's benign and liberal government; we, therefore, humbly hope it will, in Your Majesty's wisdom, be deemed expedient and just, that not only the present Reserves, but that any funds arising from the sales thereof, should be devoted to the advancement of the christian religion generally, and the happiness of all Your Majesty's subjects, of whatever denomination, or if such application or distribution should be deemed inexpedient, that the profits arising from such appropriation should be applied to the purposes of education, and the general improvement of this Province.

(signed) *John Willson, Speaker.*

Commons House of Assembly,  
27th January 1826.

(Copy.)

Sir,

Downing-street, 11th June 1826.

I HAVE laid before the King the address of the Legislative Assembly of Upper Canada, praying that His Majesty would be graciously pleased to submit to Parliament the propriety of repealing so much of the Act of 6 Geo. IV. c. 75, as permits the appropriation of lands in lieu of the Clergy Reserves, I have received

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