

# CLAIMS AND RIGHTS OF THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND IN CANADA AND THE COLONIES.

*From the Church Review.*

It is known to most of our readers, that the efforts of the General Assembly's Committee on Colonial Churches have been, for a considerable time past, directed to procure a recognition of the right of the Church of Scotland to stand on a footing of perfect equality in all respects with the Church of England, in the British Colonies. The following correspondence, extracted from the appendix to their last report, (pp. 13 to 23,) will shew what progress has been made towards the attainment of this object. It is satisfactory to add, that £500 have been advanced by Government to relieve the destitute Presbyterian clergymen in Lower Canada.

*To the Right Honorable CHARLES LORD GLENELG, His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonial Department, &c.*

*The Memorial of the General Assembly's Committee for promoting the Religious interest of Scottish Presbyterians in the British Colonies respectfully representeth, that,*

Your Lordship's memorialists, before reporting to the General Assembly their proceedings during the year, feel it their duty to bring once more under the consideration of his Majesty's Government, the state of the churches composed of their countrymen in the British colonies, both generally, and in reference to the particular circumstances of several of their number, to which the attention of the committee has been immediately called.

The memorialists beg leave to repeat the assertion of a principle which they apprehend cannot be controverted, name-

ly, That by the Treaty of Union, the ministers and other members of the Church of Scotland are entitled, in every colony settled or acquired since the year 1706, to be put on a perfect equality in all respects with those of the Church of England, in proportion to the number belonging respectively to each denomination; and that, even in those colonies which, having been settled before the Union, may be regarded as more particularly English, they are entitled at least to the favourable consideration of Government, in preference to those bodies who belong to neither establishment, and for whose principles no public or permanent pledge can be given.

The memorialists beg leave again to solicit the attention of Government to the application of the proceeds of the clergy reserve lands in Canada. The principle already laid down seems, to them to establish fully the rights of the ministers of the church of Scotland officiating in that colony to a share, proportioned to the number of their flocks, of a fund reserved expressly, by its Parliamentary charter, for the support of a Protestant clergy. They regret to find, from the representations of their numerous clerical brethren officiating in the Upper Province, that even there the English Church has received more than its fair and legitimate share of the proceeds of that fund, while the Church of Scotland has enjoyed only a precarious and very inadequate provision. And they lament that a proposal should have been made and entertained in any quarter, for admitting to a participation in the same source of emolument, the Roman Catholic clergy, as well as those of other nondescript bodies, who, however respectable they may be as individuals, are not recognized by the authorities, or incorporated