

to my people on the present critical situation of the Church, and in behalf of my destitute Clergymen. It is indeed a step which I shall take with extreme reluctance, and which were it possible I would most willingly avoid, because the statement which it will be my duty to set forth cannot fail to make a deep impression on all Churchmen, both here and in England. But I see no alternative; for independent of many weighty considerations, the five meritorious Clergymen whom it becomes my duty to protect as much as possible, can no longer be left to suffer. I shall nevertheless write with as much forbearance as the facts will permit; not forgetting that, however unjustly we may be treated, the principles of our Church and profession are submission, gentleness, and peace."

I must confess, that harassed as His Excellency has been by the troubles and vexations which seem almost inseparable from a Colonial Government, it is not perhaps surprising that he should feel disinclined to increase his responsibility; but I am persuaded that if he had been at peace and had leisure to examine the subject, he would have discovered neither objection nor difficulty,—since to assume the responsibility that I suggested, while it would be in perfect accordance with the Chancellor of the Exchequer's suggestion, would touch no great principle nor interfere with any public interest. I do conscientiously believe that any former Governor of Upper Canada, and I have known them all save the first, would, under the like circumstances, have assumed such responsibility without the slightest hesitation; and I am convinced that his conduct, in those times of justice and principle, would have been sustained and commended by the Government at home.

But although the Governor General did not see fit to act in this affair as I could have wished, I have no reason to think that he is indifferent to the situation of my suffering Clergy; but, right or wrong, he believes that the remedy is not in his power. I have, therefore, no other resource left than to appeal in favour of my distressed Clergy to their Brethren, Lay and Clerical, throughout the Diocese, to come forward in their behalf.

I therefore request you, my brethren of the Clergy, to read this Pastoral Letter, or recite the substance thereof, from the altar after morning prayer, and immediately before the Sermon, on Sunday the 12th day of January next, being the Sunday after Epiphany, and on the 19th of January, being Septuagesima Sunday, take order that a collection be taken up