

Church's prosperity, in the estimation, not of our Synod only, but of every Church in these Provinces.

GEORGE M. GRANT,  
Convener of Home Mission Board.

In the third paragraph of the Draft Act, as printed in the November *Record*, a correspondent suggests the following alteration, which, he believes, will commend itself to the approval of the Church for several reasons:—

Instead of the words "Trustees.... who shall have ceased to be members in communion with the said united body," read, "Trustees.... who shall have ceased to be adherents of the said united body."

pose. I thank God that our Government has not been either in sympathy with Atheists and unbelievers, nor under the thumb of the Roman Catholics to the extent of the Government of Quebec, which, out of fear of their displeasure, always refuses to appoint such a day as this. Therefore,—better by far than debating the authority of the appointment,—let us thank God that the men who rule us have been constrained, by the grace of God, from year to year to make the appointment for us. And notwithstanding all that may be said against it, let me assure those men that we, at least, would be deeply grieved were the time-honoured appointment to be forgotten and omitted.

And, after all, what is it that is done by our Government? Merely this. A day is appointed on which all Government employment is suspended. This act, a wholesome public opinion endorses with heart and mind; so much so that business is almost entirely suspended, and labour for the day ceases to be. Government interferes neither directly nor indirectly with the liberty of the subject. He can attend Divine Service and thank God for His goodness in a right and public way, like a rational being, or he can lie at home and eat and drink like a beast. Government merely makes everything as favourable as possible towards the right enjoyment of it, as a day of Thanksgiving, and wisely leaves the matter there. And even did Government go farther, and compel attendance at public worship, as a Christian man and minister I would feel no hardship. It is no curtailing of our liberty to compel us to do that very thing which of all things we desire from our heart to do. It is true, the majority might, and no doubt would, think it a very great hardship; but I can only be answerable for myself, and for all who think and feel as I do. We think it no hardship to have the day appointed for us, and we would give to the hands of the powers that be much more scope and authority in the matter than they have ever assumed.

Therefore, as we have no quarrel with our Rulers on the subject of the appoint-

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### THANKSGIVING SERMON,

Delivered in St. Andrew's Church, Nov. 19,  
1874,

BY REV. J. CAMPBELL.

"Lord, Thou hast been favorable unto Thy land."—Psal. lxxxv. i.

This is a Government Thanksgiving Day. There are those who refuse to take advantage of it, and assemble to worship God and give thanks to His name because it is a Government Thanksgiving Day. They say, "It has not been appointed by the Church, and therefore the Church ought to take no notice of it, and refuse to countenance it." I need hardly say to those of you who have made it a matter of care and anxiety to know me, that any such thought finds no countenance from me. The first reply I give to any such remark is this—I thank God that we, in Nova Scotia, have and always had a Government, notwithstanding what we may say and think of it in some respects, and of the several administrations as they rose and ruled and fell, which had the feeling of thankfulness to Almighty God, and that sense of the people's sympathy in this matter, to give us, as churches, a national day each autumn on which to thank God and make our offerings to some good pur-