

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 18

Religion

What Provision is to be made for the Protestant Church in Canada?

What number of Ministers are to be appointed, and with what Stipend?

Where are they to reside, and are any of the Churches already established to be appropriated to the Use of the Protestants, or others to be erected?

If the latter what Fund will there be to defray such Expences?

Are all the Religious Orders and Communities of the Church of Rome, at present existing in Quebec, to be abolished? or which, if any of them, are to be continued, & under what Restrictions or Regulations.

If any are to be abolished is the Suppression to take effect immediately, or are they to cease when the present members of such Communities are deceased, and what is to become of the Estates & Revenues of such of the religious orders and Communities as are to be discontinued.

Are the secular Clergy to have any Episcopal or Vicarial Superintendence over them? If so, by what Authority, & under what Limitations and Restrictions is such Episcopal or vicarial Power to be established?

Is the Patronage of vacant Benefices to be delegated to the Governor, or in what other manner exercised, or by whom enjoyed, and how are the Clergy to be appointed?

Lastly, How are these and the many other essential Reforms and Regulations touching Ecclesiastical matters, and also the necessary arrangements touching Commerce, Revenue, Courts of Justice, and other Civil Establishments to be provided for? If by Ordinances of the Legislative Council, (which seems the most reasonable) ought not the Governor and Chief Justice to be directed immediately to prepare, with proper assistance, Drafts of such Bills as will be requisite for those Objects under the following general Heads.

Vizt.

1. A Bill for establishing Courts of Justice, & regulating their Proceedings.

2. A Bill for the better regulation of the Ecclesiastical Affairs of Quebec.

3. A Bill for regulating the Trade with the Indians, and preventing unlawful Settlements in the Interior Country.

4. A Bill for regulating the Fisheries on the Coast of Labrador.

5. A Bill for the more effectual Administration of Justice and Government in the several subordinate Districts in the interior Country.