

17th ultimo, on the subject of the appointment of a Suffragan to the Bishop of Quebec, for the purpose of assisting his Lordship in the discharge of the laborious duties attached to his extensive See.

I need scarcely assure you, that in the consideration of this question, I have been most anxious to give effect to the wishes and the recommendations of the Bishop of Quebec. The subject was first brought under my notice, soon after I received the Seals of this department; but as the scheme at that time proposed, assumed that a permanent endowment would be made for the Suffragan Bishop from the Clergy Reserves, and from the casual and territorial Revenue of Upper Canada, I found myself compelled, however reluctantly, to decline acceding to it. The considerations which have been latterly urged by you, both in writing and personally, have induced me to resume the subject; and I proceed to inform you of the only terms upon which it appears to me practicable to afford to the Bishop of Quebec, the assistance which he requires.

You are aware of the pledge which was some time since given to Parliament, to discontinue the annual vote towards the maintenance of the Clergy in North America, whenever the tenure of the present holders of Clerical appointments should expire. To that pledge His Majesty's Government feel it incumbent upon them strictly to adhere, and no change can be contemplated, either in the amount of the provision for the Clergy of the Church of England in North America, or in the duration of that provision. It appears to me, therefore, that the only mode in which I can give my aid to the attainment of the object in view, is by sanctioning the appointment