

STATEMENT OF FACTS, &c.

A few days after the Meeting of the Diocesan Church Society in this City, held on the 18th January last, I was called upon by a gentleman from an adjoining Parish, who informed me, that the Lord Bishop of Fredericton "*had withdrawn his approval from the 'COMPANION TO THE PRAYER BOOK,'*" against which objections had been urged by myself and others, and had stated "*that it should not be re-imported.*" I was authorised to give publicity to this statement; and was permitted to see the paragraph declarative of it in a letter from his Lordship. The Lord Bishop, in a letter addressed to the Rev. Dr. W. Gray, reiterates this "*disapproval.*" His letter is a reply to one from the Rector of this Parish, written in compliance with the Bishop's request, respecting objectionable Books in the Depository in St. John. These letters have been circulated in this City by his Lordship's friends, prior to the receipt of his Lordship's answer by Dr. Gray, to whom it was addressed. The Rector in his letter made some extracts from the "*Companion to the Prayer Book,*" and the following are his Lordship's remarks in reference to it: "*As I have WITHDRAWN MY APPROBATION, on grounds deemed sufficient by me, I am at a loss to know why you urge the same objections. THE BOOK IS WITHDRAWN. Cadit quæstio.*" The question ceases. Not so with the Rev. Mr. Coster, who, *questionem resurgit*—renews this question.

This assurance induced me to abstain from any further discussion upon the subject, although I felt myself called upon to correct an erroneous impression published in the "*Chronicle*" and "*Courier,*" namely, that my inquiry ought not to have been made at the Anniversary Meeting of the Society. I think I shall satisfy every unprejudiced reader, that I was perfectly correct as to place, time and circumstance. This morning, I received a communication, entitled "*THE COMPANION TO THE PRAYER BOOK DEFENDED against the unfounded objections of the Rev. Dr. I. W. D. Gray, Rector of Trinity Church, St. John,*" and subscribed by "*F. COSTER, Rector of St. George's, Carleton, St. John.*" We have here in rapid succession the disapproval of a book by the Right Rev. Lord Bishop of Fredericton, and the approval and defence of the very same book by the Rev. Rector of Carleton, who has by this publication placed his