

CHURCH AFFAIRS (CANADA AND VICTORIA).

RETURN to an Address of the Honourable The House of Commons, dated 13 March 1856;—for,

“COPIES or EXTRACTS of Recent CORRESPONDENCE ON COLONIAL CHURCH AFFAIRS, in the Dioceses of the Colonies of *Canada and Victoria.*”

Colonial Office, Downing-street, }  
1 April 1856.

JOHN BALL.

C A N A D A.

CANADA.

—No. 1.—

COPY of a LETTER from the Bishop of *Toronto* to the Right Honourable Sir *George Grey*, Bart.

No. 1.  
Bishop of Toronto to Sir G. Grey, Bart. 20 January 1855.

Toronto, Canada, 20 January 1855.  
(Received, 6 February 1855.)

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to submit for your Excellency's consideration, and Her Majesty's Government, a memorial addressed to me by the clergy and laity of the western section of this extensive diocese.

On the 5th of October 1850, I presented a memorial to the Most Reverend and Right Reverend the Archbishops and Bishops forming the Committee appointed to arrange measures in concert with Her Majesty's Government, for the erection and endowment of additional bishops in the colonies and dependencies of Great Britain, praying that the diocese of Toronto might be beneficially divided into three distinct sees, and ultimately a fourth see, to superintend the Indian missions, and those of the white population on the banks of the great Canadian lakes.

No steps having been taken towards the accomplishment of the object prayed for, I renewed my application, with additional reasons, on the 5th of February 1853; and enclosed copies of the two memorials to his Grace the Duke of Newcastle, then Secretary for the Colonies.

His Grace was pleased to state in reply, "that Her Majesty's Government will be prepared to countenance whatever plan may be resolved on by the members of the Church of England in Canada itself, for the subdivision of the diocese of Toronto."

Letter, dated 4 April 1853.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, with whom I have been also in communication on the subject, in a letter dated the 10th February 1854, says, "I can assure your Lordship that the measure of dividing your extensive diocese is seen here in the same light as by yourselves, and the only difficulty in the way, is the want of an adequate endowment for a second bishop."

Although this appears to be the sole obstacle to the subdivision of the diocese, I saw no chance of its being removed by any assistance from a distance; I therefore bethought myself of trying what might be done here. Accordingly on the 10th of January 1854, I addressed a pastoral letter to the clergy and laity of the diocese, recommending the creation of an Episcopal Endowment Fund, to provide for the support of the new bishops, on condition of being allowed to choose them from among our own clergy.

Encouraging progress has been made in the different sections of the diocese proposed as the new sees, and more especially in the western section, in which