

while it commands a large revenue, is, at the same time, exclusive in its statutes, and of course, *must be comparatively circumscribed in its operations and benefits*. For it is not to be expected, that honourable and conscientious parents will consent that their children, in the very beginning of their literary course, shall, openly and solemnly, renounce their religious profession and connections for a privilege, which ought not to be so restricted; which may perhaps be had elsewhere, though with less tempting prospects of preferment; and which, at any rate, can be wanted. The Head of the favoured Church and Seminary, however, if we may judge from *a casting vote*, which he is reported to have lately given, in the presiding Council of the province, against the Pictou Institution, seems determined to maintain the ascendancy which both have acquired, and to oppose the establishment of a system of unfettered education. The legislative assembly, indeed, whose members are chosen by the suffrages of the public, as well as many of the leading civilians, are both liberal and impartial, and disposed to befriend the free system of the College of Pictou; but they have found themselves opposed, in all their decisions of this sort, by party feeling, and the prejudices or partialities of the few have thwarted the liberal designs and the enlightened policy of the many, while they have also counteracted the wishes of the great majority of the inhabitants.

Canada, as every one knows, is a much larger Province; and as the stream of emigration, from this country as well as from the United States, has, of late years, been almost entirely directed to this quarter, it is filling up faster. Of the amount of its population, we dare not hazard even a conjecture, although there can be no question, that it far exceeds the other. The greater portion of its inhabitants is Roman Catholic; but here, as in the other Colony, Episcopacy is the religion of the State, though its adherents, we believe, are also comparatively few.

That the minds of Britons, and of christians, should have been powerfully turned to the improvement of the condition of their countrymen in these distant regions, and particularly to the propagation of the gospel among them, is not surprising. But this enterprise, while it is benevolent and patriotic in a high degree, is attended with considerable difficulties, arising from the nature of the climate, from the character of the society, and from the state of the population, dispersed as it is in cottages, in hamlets,