

due regard to the interests of his Protestant subjects, it was further enacted, "that it should be lawful for " His Majesty, his Heirs or Successors, to make such " provision out of the rest of the said accustomed " dues and rights for the encouragement of the Pro- " testant religion, and for the maintenance and sup- " port of a Protestant Clergy within the said Pro- " vince, as should from time to time be thought " necessary and expedient."

In the year 1791, His late Majesty King George the Third, whose memory will ever be revered in this Colony, deemed it expedient to divide the Province of Quebec into two separate Provinces, to be called Upper and Lower Canada ; and in the Royal message sent to Parliament for the purpose of recommending the enactment of the necessary provisions for the good government of the said Provinces, His Majesty was pleased to express his desire " to be en- " abled to make a permanent appropriation of lands " for the due and sufficient support and maintenance " of a Protestant Clergy within the said Provinces, " in proportion to such increase as might happen in " the population and cultivation thereof."

By this time (1791) a considerable number of persons of British origin had settled in Canada ; and it may be observed in how much more express and particular a manner the intention to provide for the support of the Protestant religion is announced in this Act, than it had been in the one which was passed