

have been importuned, from time to time, to exercise this right by ordaining part of our travelling preachers. But I have still refused, not only for peace sake, but because I was determined as little as possible to violate the established order of the national church to which I belonged.

"But the case is widely different between England and North America. Here there are Bishops who have a legal jurisdiction. In America there are none, and but few parish ministers. So that for some hundred miles together there are none either to baptize or administer the Lord's Supper. Here, therefore, my scruples are at an end, and I conceive myself at full liberty, as I violate no order, and invade no man's right, by appointing and sending laborers into the harvest.

"I have accordingly appointed Dr. Coke and Mr. Francis Asbury to be joint Superintendents over our brethren in North America, as also Richard Whatcoat and Thomas Vasey to act as Elders among them, by baptising and administering the Lord's Supper."

It is evident from these statements of Mr. Wesley to the American brethren that he had no special reference to a political policy, but his action in relation to the ordination of Dr. Coke and others for the Church in America was based on the consideration that no national church had then an existence in America, and hence he invaded no ecclesiastical right in the provision made for his American societies. In making this provision for his American societies he had no regard to national boundaries. This is further demonstrated from the fact that he requested the ordination of Mr. Freeborn Garrettson as General Superintendent, in order that he might be sent in that relation to the *British possessions*. On this subject Dr. Stevens gives us the following historical facts :

"Freeborn Garrettson was ordained at the Conference of 1784, and appointed to Nova Scotia. His labors in that province were extraordinary in their extent and success, but they will come under our notice hereafter. In April, 1787, he returned to the United States, by way of Boston, where he preached in private houses, not being admitted to its pulpits. At Providence and Newport he addressed large assemblies. Arriving in New York, he hastened to the Conference at Baltimore. Wesley had been so impressed by his success in Nova Scotia that he sent a request to the Conference for his ordination as Superintendent, or Bishop, for the British dominions in America—a vast diocese, comprising not only the north-eastern provinces and the Canadas, but also the West India Islands. Dr. Coke, writes Garrettson, 'as Mr. Wesley's delegate and representative, asked me if I would accept of the appointment. I requested the liberty of deferring my answer until the next day. I think on the next day the doctor came to my room and asked me if I had made up my mind to accept of my appointment. I told him I had upon certain