

(No. 6.)

TO THE HONORABLE, THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, AND THE HONORABLE, THE COMMONS HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY OF UPPER CANADA, IN PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED,

*The humble Memorial of the Right Rev. Alexander Macdonell, Bishop of Kingston; of his Coadjutor, the Right Rev. Henegius Goulin; of the Very Rev. William P. Macdonald, of the Very Rev. Angus Macdonnell, Vicars General; of the Hon. Alexander Macdonell, and the Hon. John Elmsley; of Thirty-two Catholic Priests, and Eighty-six Thousand Five Hundred Catholics, of the Province of Upper Canada.*

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH,

That while their fellow Colonists of other Religious Denominations are urging with vigour and perseverance their respective Claims to a share of the Clergy Reserves, Your Memorialists beg leave to lay before your Honorable House their own Claims to a provision from Government for the support of their Religion, upon grounds equally just and constitutional with any others of their fellow Colonists.

1st. Because on the cession of the Province of Quebec to the British Crown, the Catholics were secured in the full possession of all the rights and privileges of their Religion, as is clearly expressed in the twenty-seventh article of the Capitulation, which says, "The people shall be obliged by the British Government to pay to the Priests the Tithes and all the Taxes they were used to pay under His Most Christian Majesty, (not indeed, however, the tenth part of their produce, as in England and Ireland, but the sixth and twentieth part of their grain.)"

2nd. Because on the division of the Province of Quebec into the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, the right to tithes and other privileges was preserved entire and undiminished to the Catholic Clergy of Upper Canada, which right still exists, although the poverty of the Inhabitants generally, and the utter abhorrence of the Irish Emigrants to the obnoxious and oppressive tribute of Tithes, induced the Catholic Clergy of Upper Canada to refrain from exacting them.