

That your memorialists, in most instances, found their emoluments, even before they were diminished by one half, to be no more than sufficient, with the strictest economy and management, to afford them a suitable maintenance according to their station in society, and to meet the demands arising from their relation to their people, especially in a climate where the severity of the winter imposes additional expenses upon themselves, and causes additional hardship to the poor; that even then they saw themselves surrounded, although they saw it without repining, by many in other professions or pursuits, who with similar original prospects and pretensions in life, and with a much less expensive education, had risen to far ampler means of providing for their families; but that with the slender allowance now assigned to them, they feel their respectability to be lowered, and their usefulness abridged; their credit impaired in quarters from which they were in the habit of receiving their supplies, and the field of their exertions necessarily narrowed on account of expenses attending their circuits of duty:

That other circumstances, which it might be considered a needless minuteness to particularize, have in different parts of the Diocese, deprived many of your memorialists of certain small emoluments, which constituted an addition to their incomes, and have thus conspired with the reduction which the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel have felt themselves necessitated to make, to bring them into a situation of positive and severe embarrassment and distress; so that humiliating examples might be here produced of their inability to meet their engagements, contracted under no apprehension of so adverse a change, or of their want of means to retain a single servant, male or female, in the family, to perform the menial offices of the house:

That it is impossible, under the circumstances of this country, to remedy the evils here represented, unless to a very inconsiderable extent, by means of the voluntary contributions of the people (~~which~~ at ~~the~~ best, apt to create an objectionable kind of dependence,) however well affected towards the Church or personally towards their ministers, not only because the congregations have been long habituated to consider the main support of their Clergy as a thing provided for from other and permanent sources, but because ~~the members of such congregations themselves~~ in the great majority of settlements, are actually unable, from the scarcity of money and the struggles which they are making to establish their own families, to provide what is necessary ~~for~~ for such a purpose ~~themselves~~:

That therefore your memorialists most respectfully pray that you would be pleased to take the hardship of their case into your most serious and favorable consideration; and to devise such means, ~~from any funds which may be at the disposal of Government,~~ as to your wisdom shall suggest themselves, not only for their personal relief, but for the preservation of those high interests of which they are in charge, and which must unavoidably suffer if the present depressed condition of the Clergy should continue:

That with reference particularly to this last object, which far transcends the other in their estimation, your memorialists cannot forbear from taking this opportunity most respectfully but most earnestly to represent the importance of directing endowments to be made every where from the Clergy Reserves with the smallest possible delay, in order that matters may at length be put in train for making a permanent and suitable provision for the Church, and that the many evils may be remedied which arise from the precarious and unsettled condition of her establishment in the country.

And your memorialists as in duty bound, &c. &c.

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