

[CIRCULAR.]

QUEBEC, 20th December, 1827.

REVEREND SIR,

I enclose a letter relating to the pretensions of the Presbyterians in this Diocese to a participation in the Clergy Reserves; and I have to inform you that separate Petitions to the Imperial Parliament, in support of the Rights of the Church of England, from the congregations of that Church in the Diocese, whether provided or unprovided with ministers, will shortly be circulated for signatures.

You will not fail to use your utmost diligence in procuring to be appended to such of these Petitions as may come to your hands, the names of all *bona fide* supporters of the Church, in so serious a crisis of her affairs, and one in which her interests are so deeply and permanently involved.

You will also take the earliest opportunity of cautioning your congregation against being betrayed by an unguarded facility, or a mistaken principle of liberality, into any support of the claims of our competitors, until they shall have had the subject fully before them, and enjoy the means of fairly considering the counter-representations which it becomes our duty to make.

I am, Reverend Sir,

Your obedient humble Servant,

J. C. QUEBEC.

A LETTER

From the BISHOP of QUEBEC to the CLERGY and CONGREGATIONS of the CHURCH of ENGLAND in the Diocese of Quebec, in relation to some existing differences of opinion respecting the Clergy Reserves and certain other points.

REVEREND BRETHREN AND CHRISTIAN FRIENDS,

THE Providence of God having called me to preside, in this Diocese, over the Church to which you belong, I am impelled at this juncture to address you with reference to some circumstances which nearly affect the interests of our Establishment, and the discussion of which occasionally demands the exercise of much charity and moderation, as well as much firmness and prudence from her guardians and her friends.

I pray you, then, to take in good part what proceeds, as I humbly hope, from a proper sense of the duties incumbent upon me in the arduous and responsible post which I occupy; and being ready to receive in the same spirit whatever can be urged on the other side to invalidate our arguments, I bespeak all indulgence from all quarters, while I publicly set forth what I do conceive to be the true state of the question, and while I venture to make some suggestions respecting the manner in which it should be treated. It is the sincere desire of my heart before God, without compromising the interests which I am bound to maintain, to allay the irritation and violence of feeling which every true Christian must grieve to see produced by a question of temporal provision and support.—Our own defenders may occasionally have been betrayed into some heat or impropriety, but I am not aware that we have ever attacked any party—and although the circumstances of our enjoying superior rights, might perhaps have led us to expect that we should not enjoy them unmolested—some of the attacks which we have sustained during the last few years, are such as we could not have looked for from fellow Christians. It has appeared to be the object