

conference; fairly revealing to us, in the true spirit of the lords spiritual, that conference has the power to appoint something new—a power, too, it would seem, that it is determined to keep.

But a second item, worthy of particular notice, is, the unqualified tyranny that conference exercises among the members over which it presides. The Roman Mother never surpassed this. Think of it! Not a meeting to be called, however private or however pious, on any account or on any occasion, by any Methodist, or by any number of Methodists, different from the already established order, until it first has the sanction of the chief priests, who constitute the higher powers. If, according to the example of the pious Wesley, a Methodist Minister should rise at four o'clock, while those corpulent religious lawyers were dreaming or snoring, and call together a band of saints or sinners, and read, preach, pray, or sing to them a little aside from the regular rule prescribed by the priesthood of conference, he would truly be “in danger of the council,” and be thrust “into utter darkness,” away from the glory of his Church; and if he had nothing to confess, he would forever remain separated—and for what? Really for a less offence than that for which his zealous father—Wesley—was cut off from the old Episcopality of England. In view of this anti-liberal and truly despotic law, we have no reason to wonder at language such as the following:—

“Could the Methodists be invested, by some revolution, with the absolute power that Rome once possessed, there is reason to fear, that, unless checked by the genius of a more humane eye, the conference would equal Rome itself in the spirit of persecution.”

And who is it that speaks thus? An authority no less than Lord John Russel, late Prime Minister to Her Majesty. We shall leave every reader to be his own commentator.

We have only room for another testimony, given us by a writer in the only paper which advocates Episcopal Methodism in this colony:—

“Our office is no ordinary one. We are ambassadors from the King of kings, and Lord of lords, to a revolted world. \* \* No work ever undertaken by mortals was so important, so solemn, or connected with such amazing consequences. Among all the thousands to whom we preach, not one but will make an impression from us that will never wear out. The fate of millions through succeeding generations depends upon our faithfulness. Heaven and Hell will forever ring with melted memorials of our ministry.”

Yes, here we have another division of ambassadors. Now we are not to institute an inquiry for the purpose of disproving their ambassa-