

against the avarice and injustice of the representatives of the Anglican Church, and their indignation was greatly increased by the establishment of 57 Rectories, by Sir John Colborne, in 1836. In that year we find the Synod petitioning the King to revoke the Act.

The late Dr. Black, of Montreal, the late Hon. William Morris, of Perth, and the late Hon. Chief Justice McLean, were among the foremost of the Church of Scotland's friends and advocates during the long continued and bitter controversy that ensued ere the Presbyterians of Canada were recognized as having a rightful claim to any share of the Reserves.

By the Imperial Act of 1840—uniting Upper and Lower Canada—the claim of the Church of Scotland was at last conceded, and after making provision for certain other denominations to a limited extent, it was arranged that the remaining proceeds should be divided, two-thirds to go to the Church of England; one-third to the Church of Scotland. Dissatisfaction still prevailed. Appeals, protests, petitions, followed: the Church and the Country alike became agitated, and the secularization of the Reserves became the political topic of the day. Yielding to public pressure, the Canadian Government applied to the British Parliament for power to deal with the Reserves. This was granted in 1853, and authority given “to vary or repeal all or any of the existing provisions for the distribution of the Reserves’ Fund, and to apply the proceeds to any purpose they may see fit, *provided, that it shall not be lawful for the said Legislature to amend, suspend, or reduce, any of the annual stipends or allowances, which have already been given to the Clergy of the Churches of England and Scotland, or to any other religious bodies or denominations of Christians in Canada, (and to which the faith of the Crown is pledged), during the natural lives or incumbencies of the parties now receiving the same.*” The Canadian Government considered it advisable, by one decisive blow, FOR EVER, to remove all semblance of connection between Church and State in Canada, which could only be done by buying off the claims of existing ministers. “Be it therefore enacted,” says the Statute of 1854, “that the Governor in Council may, whenever he may deem it expedient, with the consent of the parties and bodies severally interested, commute with the said parties such annual stipends or allowances thereof, to be calculated at the