

I deplore the necessity to which I have been thus driven to occupy so much of his Excellency's precious time, in matters with which he should not have been troubled, were it not from his own kind condescension, and friendly feelings.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient and very

Humble Servant

ALEXANDER M'DONELL, Ep.

To Mr. Secretary Roan, &c. &c. &c.

ADDRESS.

To the Hon. & Rt. Rev. Alexander McDonell, Bishop of Kingston, &c. &c. &c.

Rt. Rev. Sir,

We, the Roman Catholic inhabitants of York, feel it a duty we owe, to our holy church, and to your Lordship, its legitimate head, in this Province, to address you upon the lamentable circumstance of our holy religion being insulted and degraded, by the contumacious conduct of our late incumbent and his misguided followers.

We have had great reason to be grateful to the Almighty, viewing as we have done, the vast progress religion has made under your Lordship, in this happy Province; but alas! of late a cloud has overshadowed these bright prospects, and threatens the most disastrous consequences.

We have observed for some time with unfeigned sorrow the conduct of our late Rev. incumbent, Mr. O'Grady, and our grief is inexpressible at seeing a schism to such an extent existing in our congregation, (to the degradation and scandal of our holy religion) from his having the impious audacity to raise his contumacious voice against your Lordship and the authority of the church. This we could, by your pious example and salutary advice, bear with a christian forbearance, knowing that the evil would in time cure itself; but when we see this individual having the effrontery (unequalled in those days) to attempt to wrest from our holy father the Pope, the ecclesiastical supremacy of the Roman Catholic Church in this Province, and to place it in the hands of a protestant (the Lieut. Governor of Upper Canada as representative of his Majesty, the King of England) as appears from his own petition to his Excellency Sir John Colborne (a document fraught with misrepresentations and gross falsehoods) we can no longer suppress our feelings but hold him up to all good men as an object of contempt, disgust and indignation. We would be unworthy the name of Catholics, and would disgrace the memory of the illustrious martyrs, Fisher, and Moore, were we to allow such a daring and sacrilegious attempt at innovation in the Catholic Church to pass without our marked reprobation.

We are well aware what course Mr. O'Grady ought to have pursued had he been aggrieved. He should have sought for redress from the Holy See according to the practice of the Catholic Church, and not from the Lieutenant Governor. We know also had he done so, and had his cause been a good one, that he would have got that redress. We therefore fully approve of the steady, firm, unyielding conduct of your Lordship towards this schismatic Priest and his blinded followers, and also in taking legal steps to dislodge the mock Church-Wardens, from the possession of the Church property, in order to restore it to the legitimate proprietors.

Your Lordship must expect to suffer from the machinations of wicked and designing persons who, impelled by gross and sinister motives, would sap the very foundation of Religion; but while your Lordship may suffer persecution from the base and the degraded, it must be consoling to you, to know that you enjoy the confidence of the virtuous and the pious, who are willing to support your Lordship in the conscientious discharge of your ecclesiastical duties, even at the risk of their lives.

Recognising your Lordship, as the link in this province, by which only we can be connected with the great chain of Catholicity, and remain members of that Church which Christ

himself has founded; and holding in the highest possible estimation the exalted character which your Lordship has established by the true piety, ardent zeal, and the active exertions of half a century, on the mission, we humbly beseech the omnipotent Author of our holy religion, to grant you length of days, in health, to watch over the fold, and wisdom, to discover the wolves in sheep's clothing, and grace to lead the flock in the paths of virtue and salvation.

UPPER CANADA, } John P. De La Haye, Esq. of the
Home District, } Town of York, in the Home District,
to wit, } maketh oath and saith, that he heard
the Rev. Wm. J. O'Grady say words to this effect: that he,
the said Rev. Wm. J. O'Grady had not been appointed in this
Diocese by Bishop McDonell, but had his jurisdiction independently of him from the See of Rome, and consequently, that he owed him (the Bishop) nothing but a dinner when on his visitation: and this deponent further saith, that the said Wm. J. O'Grady said that Bishop McDonell had no power to remove him from the Parish of York.
Sworn before me, at York, in the
Home District, this 31st May, 1833. } J. P. DE LA HAYE.

THOS. H. TAYLOR,

A Commissioner of the King's Bench for taking Affidavits in the Home District.

Home District, } Personally appeared before me, William
to wit, } Bergin, of the town of York, merchant, (late
senior Church-warden of the Roman Catholic Church of the said town,) and voluntarily maketh oath and saith, that the late Incumbent of the Roman Catholic Church of said town, the Rev. Wm. J. O'Grady, has more than once told this deponent that he would not receive faculties, as Vicar General, from the Hon. & Rt. Rev. Bishop McDonell, because it would be in his Lordship's power to withdraw them at pleasure, and further stated to this deponent that he had his faculties from the Holy See. This deponent further states, that the said Incumbent, Wm. J. O'Grady, declared at a public Meeting that he stood upon an equal footing with the Bishop, with the exception of His Lordship's mitre, and having the power to administer the holy sacraments of Holy Orders and Confirmation.

Sworn before me, at my office in } W. BERGIN.
York, this 1st day of June, 1833. }

H. C. HEWARD,
Commissioner, &c. Home District.

Home District, } Whereas, Francis Collins, of the Town
to wit, } of York, Printer, personally appeared before me and made oath, that the Rev. Wm. J. O'Grady stated to him, (this deponent) that Bishop McDonell had offered to confer upon him the faculty of Vicar General in this Diocese, but that he would not accept it at his hands, lest he should afterwards remove him—and that if he accepted the appointment at all, it would be from the Holy See, in which case the Bishop would not have the power to take it away. That some time afterwards, he, the said Wm. J. O'Grady, told this deponent that he had received the faculty of Vicar General directly from the Holy See, and read to this deponent a Latin document which, he said, was an answer from him to the Pope's Bull, which was directed to him as Vicar General, in consequence of his holding that appointment or faculty from the Holy See.

Sworn before me, at York, in the } FRA'S. COLLINS.
Home District, this 31st May, 1833. }

THOS. H. TAYLOR,
Commissioner, &c. Home District.