

“powers given to them by the Statute (31 Geo. 3. chap. 31.) to vary or repeal its provisions, in respect to the support of a Protestant Clergy, can be called into exercise most advantageously for the spiritual and temporal interests of his Majesty’s faithful subjects in this Province.” The Legislature were further put in possession of the views and desire of his Majesty’s Government in more definite terms, for in the House of Assembly a bill was introduced by the Attorney General, as appears by the Journals, the principal object of which was to vest the Clergy Reserves in his Majesty, discharged from all trusts that had been created by the Statute 31 Geo. 3. The message with the draft of this bill, were printed by order of the House of Assembly, and a copy is subjoined to this Report.† The bill was merely introduced into the Assembly in that Session, and was no further proceeded in. In the following Session of 1832–3, the same bill seems to have been again introduced into the Assembly by the Attorney General, when it was read the first time, and moved in no further.

In 1834, a Bill similar to that which has been submitted to your Committee to be reported upon was brought into the Assembly. Its object is distinctly in opposition to that which had been introduced by the Attorney General, in conformity to the wishes expressed by his Majesty’s Government ; for instead of

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† Appendix G.