

who much moment a due attention to these matters is in this country, where the Protestant Clergy are so few in number; and where so much the more must consequently depend on their personal qualities, conduct and exertions. Thus situated, any neglect, any misstep, or disqualification in them would be peculiarly fatal.

Be assured that nothing now said, or that I shall say hereafter, is spoken to reproach any individual; but by way of admonition, and which I apply to myself, as well as to You. Were there occasion for it, (though probably there is none) I might use the concluding words of St. Jerom's letter to Nepotian on this subject — "Our Intention was not to reproach the guilty, but by admonition to prevent guilt.—I have not injured any one; no individual is mentioned in what I have written,—my discourse has been against what is amiss in general; if any one therefore is offended, he thereby confesseth that he is faulty.†"

—THE circumstances of our Church on this continent in general, and particularly in this country, have hitherto subjected the Clergy to many difficulties and discouragements. Blessed be God, some

B 2.

of

† Nec inveſti ſumus in eos qui peccant, ſed ne peccent monuimus. Nullum læſi, nullius nomen mea ſcriptura deſignatum eſt. Generalis de vitiis diſputatio; qui mihi irarſci voluerit, ipſe de ſe quod talis ſit conſitebitur. HIERON.
AD NEPOTIAN. in ſinem.