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FURTHER PAPERS

RELATIVE TO

THE CLERGY RESERVES

IN

CANADA.

*(In continuation of Papers presented to Parliament by Her Majesty's Command,
February 1851.)*

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
February 23, 1852.

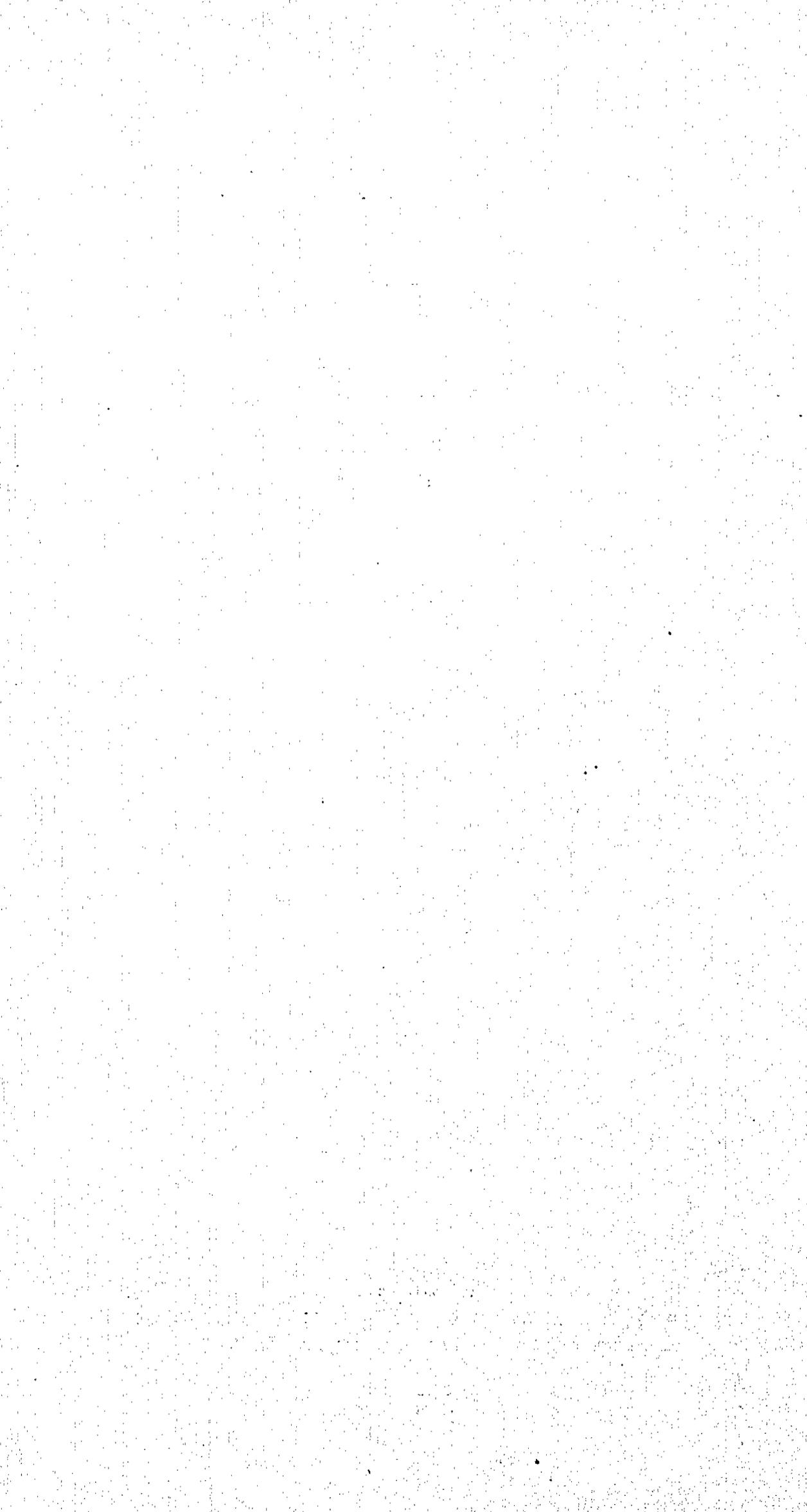


LONDON:

PRINTED BY GEORGE EDWARD EYRE AND WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

1852



SCHEDULE.

CANADA.

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FURTHER PAPERS
RELATIVE TO
THE CLERGY RESERVES IN CANADA.

(No. 21.)

No. 1.

CANADA.
No. 1.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Earl of ELGIN and KINCARDINE to
Earl GREY.

Government House, Toronto, February 4, 1851.

(Received February 24, 1851.)

MY LORD,

WITH reference to a communication which I lately received from your Lordship, intimating that you had been apprized that petitions to Her Majesty and the two Houses of the Imperial Parliament against any disturbance of the existing arrangement of the Canadian Clergy Reserves had been already sent to England from the diocese of Toronto, and desiring me to furnish any information on this subject which I might possess, I have the honour to state that I have no knowledge of the petitions in question. Soon after the adoption by the Legislative Assembly of the Address to Her Majesty transmitted in my Despatch, No. 198,* of the 19th July, 1850, a circular letter, of which I herewith enclose a printed copy, appeared in a provincial newspaper, addressed to the clergy of the diocese of Toronto, and signed by the archdeacons in the absence of the Lord Bishop, urging members of the Church of England to petition against the prayer of that address. I am not, however, cognizant of any proceedings which may have taken place in pursuance of that recommendation.

2. An application was indeed lately made to me, with the view of ascertaining whether it would be proper to transmit through me certain petitions to Her Majesty on the subject of the Clergy Reserves, which, it was alleged, were in course of preparation by congregations of the Presbyterian Church in Lower Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland. This application was answered in the affirmative, but I have not received the petitions alluded to. I may observe, however, with reference to this point, that the present position of the Presbyterian Church in Canada greatly increases the difficulty of maintaining intact the settlement of the Clergy Reserve question, effected by the Imperial Act, 3 and 4 Vict. chap. 78. By that statute a certain proportion of the proceeds of the Clergy Reserves was set apart for this body, which was then united. Since the period of its enactment, however, the unhappy disruption of the Scotch Establishment has taken place, and a considerable section of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, by joining in the secession, has disqualified itself from sharing in this portion of the endowment. By this means the original intention of the Act has been to a certain extent frustrated.

3. Although, as the usual practice of transmitting such documents through the Governor-General has in this case been departed from, I am unable to give any information respecting the petitioners, I think it by no means improbable that petitions against the prayer of the address of the Legislative Assembly, signed to the extent which your Lordship describes, or even more numerous, may have been sent from this province. It is notorious that a large portion of the clergy of the Church of England and of the Presbyterian Church in connexion with the Church of Scotland are favourable to the maintenance of the existing settlement of the Clergy Reserve question. It would indeed

* See Papers relating to the Clergy Reserves in Canada, presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command, February 1851,

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argue a state of things in the province much to be regretted, if so highly estimable a body of persons were unable to induce a considerable number of the laity to join them in a protest against a measure which they deem to be injurious. At the same time I think it would be rash to assume that a petition of this kind is a surer test of public opinion than the vote of the popular branch of the Provincial Legislature.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.

The Right Hon. Earl Grey,
&c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 1.

Encl. in No. 1.

To the Reverend the Clergy of the Archdeaconries of Kingston and York.

REV. AND DEAR BRETHREN,—

YOUR attention will before this have been called to the fact that a series of resolutions, and an Address to the Queen framed upon these resolutions, has passed the Legislative Assembly of the province, praying that the Clergy Reserves, believed to have been definitively appropriated by the Act of 3 and 4 of Vict. chap. 78., should be alienated from the purposes stated in that enactment, and applied to educational and other secular objects.

That an effort of this nature, aiming at the total abolition of all grants and endowments for religious instruction, should have succeeded in a Legislature calling itself Christian, must far and near disappoint the expectations of all seriously-minded and pious persons. The discredit and peril to our country from such a decision it is most painful to contemplate; but the features of the case become much more lamentable and repulsive when it is reflected that the measure just passed designs, with that of other religious bodies, the direct spoliation of the Church of England of the residue of her property in this province, and a flagrant breach of the faith virtually pledged to her in 3 and 4 of Vict. already referred to.

Although the high sense of honour and unbending integrity which characterize the British nation,—but which are fast losing their weight amongst ourselves in public and high places,—cannot allow us to believe that a measure so flagrantly wicked and unjust as that contemplated in the resolutions and address just passed will meet with the slightest countenance from our Gracious Queen and the Imperial Parliament, it becomes us, as a duty to the truth and majesty of religion, not less than to the interests of our own branch of the Church Catholic, to record our vigorous and decided protest against this criminal act of intended spoliation. If the Parliament of this province will sanction the infidel opinion that religion is not to be cared for, and that every existing provision for its maintenance is to be swept away, the members of the Church of England,—amongst, we will believe, thousands of others,—will stand forth in honest and bold repudiation of the reproach and the sin thus incurred.

We recommend that meetings should immediately be held in your respective parishes, and at the out-stations where you may officiate, and that petitions should be adopted to the Queen, and the Houses of Lords and Commons, in firm though respectful protest against this fresh injustice to the Church of England. Every effort should be made to procure the signature of every male adult belonging to the Church, in every quarter which can by possibility be reached; and our impression is decided, that if, in this crisis, the members of the Church will be but true to themselves, and rise and speak in the might of their righteous cause, and of their own vast stake and influence in the province, their voice would not be disregarded, but would soon drown the cry of the evil-minded and ungodly faction which aims at her destruction. The three hundred thousand Churchmen in the United Provinces should testify, by the strongest steps which can be constitutionally exerted, that they will not be robbed of their property with impunity, but that they will withstand, with a determination and persevering opposition, those machinations of an infidel principle, combined with a Romish hostility, which aim at the subversion of the existence and influence of their Church in this land. Political intrigue, and the selfishness which prompts it, may have much to do with the present movement; but there is a deeper principle of evil at the root. This is our solemn duty, as Churchmen and as Christians, to resist, and that with earnestness and vigour, and without delay.

A form of petition is subjoined as a guidance, and it would be well that the signatures obtained should be transmitted to Mr. Champion, at the Church Society's House at Toronto, by the 1st of August next at latest, that they may be forwarded to the Lord Bishop of Toronto, and reach him before he leaves England.

We remain, &c.

GEO. O'KILL STUART, D.D. and LL.D., Archdeacon of Kingston.
A. N. BETHUNE, D.D., Archdeacon of York.

July 2, 1850.

FORM OF PETITION.

To the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,—

WE, Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the clergy and laity of the United Church of England and Ireland in the Diocese of Toronto and Province of Canada, most humbly represent:

That in the year 1791, His late Majesty King George the Third, of blessed memory, caused the appropriation to be made within the province aforesaid of the lands called the Clergy Reserves, for the support and maintenance of a Protestant Clergy:

That in the year 1823 the question was first raised whether these lands pertained exclusively to the Church of England, or whether other denominations termed Protestant were meant to be included in the provisions of the Act making that appropriation:

That the discussion of this question led to much agitation and strife in this province, but that it was at length finally settled by an Act passed the 3d and 4th years of Your Majesty's reign, whereby two-thirds of the proceeds of the lands then sold, and two-thirds of one-half of the lands still unsold, were allotted to the Church of England in this diocese.

That this enactment, made in the year 1840, was universally regarded throughout the province as a definitive arrangement of this long-agitated question, and that your petitioners, though believing those lands to have been intended exclusively for the Church of England, quietly acquiesced in that division.

That from the passing of that Act up to the close of the year 1849 no discontent with the arrangement thus settled was expressed in any quarter, and that up to the present moment there has been no agitation or feeling in the province on that account.

That your petitioners, with much surprise and indignation, have observed that, during the present session of the Provincial Parliament, a series of resolutions, and an Address to Your Majesty framed upon these resolutions, has been passed, to the effect that this property for the support of religion should be alienated from that holy object, and applied to educational or other secular purposes.

That your petitioners regard with horror a public enactment which aims at the abolition of all grants and endowments for religious instruction in the province, and by the contemplated spoliation of the Church of England of the residue of her property herein, the direct and reckless violation of the faith pledged to her in the Act of the 3d and 4th years of Your Majesty's reign.

That your petitioners would regard the success of such an attempt as a national sin of the deepest dye and a grievous moral degradation, as well as a heavy blow to the influence and spread of true religion in the province.

That where religion is made to be wholly dependent upon the voluntary contributions of the people it may be supported with tolerable respectability in towns and villages of any considerable size; but that in the rural districts, where the population is comparatively poor, the means of ensuring stated instruction in the truths of the Gospel will not, in many cases, exist. This is evident from what is presented in the neighbouring United States of America, where in large tracts of country there exists no provision for the maintenance of a clergy, and where, consequently, the ministrations of religion, if at all, are only occasionally afforded. The effect of this is, the growth and spread of an infinite variety of sects, and the influence of many which propagate tenets in direct contravention of the truth and purity of Christianity. In many instances, as the result of leaving religion to the partialities and caprices of an uneducated people, we find in that country churches and chapels erected by Unitarians, and even Universalists, who deny the existence of future punishments, amongst the most costly and best supported of all the edifices dedicated to religious worship.

Your petitioners would further represent, that the sanction by Your Majesty of a measure of the godless character just passed by our Legislative Assembly would have the inevitable effect of speedily alienating from Your Majesty's throne and royal house the loyal attachment of a large number of Your Majesty's most faithful and devoted subjects; for experience has proved, and especially the history of the Rebellion in 1837-38, that the members of the Church of England, from the principles engrafted in her polity and ritual, and impressed from childhood upon her members, were ever foremost in defence of Your Majesty's throne.

Your petitioners would also represent, with much grief and regret, that the fact of several members of the Romish communion in the Legislative Assembly voting for the alienation of the property of the Church of England, should that alienation be determined upon, will have the effect of re-opening and exasperating religious division and animosity in this province, and of creating at no distant period a movement, which it will be impossible to restrain, for alienating the ecclesiastical property held by the Romish Church in Lower Canada. If the property of the Church of England and of Protestants generally in this province is to be confiscated for public and secular purposes, it will never be borne that the lands and endowments held by a Romish priesthood should be inviolate and untouched.

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that Your Majesty will refuse Your sanction to any measure for alienating the property of the Church of England in this diocese and province from the sacred purposes for which it was set apart; viz., for the support and maintenance of public worship and the propagation of religious knowledge.

And Your Majesty's dutiful and loyal petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

CANADA.
No. 2.

(No. 38.)

No. 2.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Earl of ELGIN AND KINCARDINE
to Earl GREY.

Government House, Toronto, March 15, 1851.

(Received April 7, 1851.)

(Answered June 13, 1851, No. 609, page 18.)

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit Memorials addressed to Her Majesty the Queen and to the two Houses of the Imperial Parliament by the Presbytery of Kingston in connexion with the Church of Scotland, on the subject of the Canadian Clergy Reserves, with a memorandum on the statement contained in these Memorials furnished to me by the Honourable Mr. Price, one of the members of the Executive Council of this province.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.

The Right Hon. Earl Grey,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 1 in No. 2.

Unto the QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

The Memorial of the Reverend the Presbytery of Kingston (Canada West), in connexion with the Church of Scotland.

HUMBLY SHOWETH,*

THAT by the piety and munificence of His late Majesty King George III. a grant of lands throughout this province, called the Clergy Reserves, was set apart for the support of a Protestant clergy.

That your Memorialists and the church to which they belong were for many years excluded from a participation in this grant, on the plea that these reserves were specially and solely intended for the support of the clergy in connexion with the Church of England. That a decision was pronounced by the twelve judges of England, by which the clergy of the Church of Scotland were declared to be entitled to a share of the reserves.

That in the year 1837 an Act was passed by the Imperial Parliament, and sanctioned by the Sovereign, providing for the final settlement of the question, according to the terms of the preamble of the said Act, wherein it is declared, that "it is expedient to provide for the final disposition of the lands called Clergy Reserves in Canada."

That the adjustment then effected has hitherto given general satisfaction to the loyal, well-disposed, and Protestant inhabitants of the province, and has been found to be productive of much good, in the support of religion in poor and thinly-settled localities, where, without such a provision, a regular supply of Divine Service and a settled ministry could not be maintained. That by these reserves a provision has been made for the support of religion neither infringing upon the rights nor affecting the interests of any portion of Your Majesty's subjects.

That your Memorialists have perceived, with deep regret, that an address to the Imperial Parliament has been lately adopted by the House of Assembly, having for its object the diversion of the Clergy Reserves from the support of religion altogether, to that of secular education, from which religion is industriously excluded.

That the said address in its leading principles was carried by a very slender majority in the House of Assembly, and of that majority the greater number are Roman Catholics, whose object is to subvert all Protestant religious institutions; and that it was never concurred in by nor submitted to the Legislative Council.

That the House of Assembly, which now seeks to alienate the reserves set apart for the support of a Protestant clergy, has lately granted Acts of incorporation to numerous bodies of Roman Catholics, conferring on them extensive privileges, and entitling them to hold fixed property to an enormous value.

That the object of the present attempt by the House of Assembly is to despoil the Church of Scotland and other Protestant religious bodies of any participation in the fund and lands specially devoted and appropriated "for the maintenance of religion and the advancement of knowledge within the province of Canada," and thereby to withdraw from religion that support which is so essential for its maintenance and extension in the present state of this country, and which your Memorialists regard it as the first duty of a Christian state at all times to afford.

That the present attempt is likely to inflict a serious injury on the peace of this province, by opening up such an important religious question for fresh discussion; that if successful it

* Similar Memorials addressed to the Houses of Lords and Commons.

it will have the effect of leaving many of the poorer parts of this country miserably supplied with the means of grace, and in very few parts of it will the ministers of religion be able to obtain anything like a certain or adequate support; and that by repealing the Act of the Imperial Legislature, declared in the strongest manner to be a final settlement, all confidence will be destroyed in the stability and security of any Acts of the British Parliament in future.

Your memorialists do therefore earnestly beseech Your Majesty to refuse assent to the address of the House of Assembly, and to preserve in all its integrity the settlement already made of the Clergy Reserves for the support of that religion which exalteth a nation.

Signed in name and by appointment of the Presbytery,

J. MALCOLM SMITH, M.A.,
Moderator of Presbytery, *Pro. tem.*

Enclosure 2 in No. 2.

Encl. 2 in No. 2.

MEMORANDUM.

THE Memorial of the Presbytery of Kingston having been forwarded to the Governor-General with a view to its being transmitted to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies for presentation, it is submitted that the following explanatory remarks should accompany the same.

There is a studious attempt throughout the Memorial to persuade the British public, who must necessarily be but little acquainted with the state of public opinion in Canada, that the dissatisfaction which has been felt with the Imperial Clergy Reserve Act has been on the part of that portion of the population professing the Roman Catholic faith. It is difficult to understand how any parties so well acquainted with facts as the Presbytery of Kingston could venture on such a statement. The Clergy Reserve question has never been agitated in that part of Lower Canada inhabited by the French Canadians who constitute the great bulk of the Roman Catholic population.

It so happens that in Upper Canada, where, for the last twenty years, the Clergy Reserve question has been a fruitful subject of discord, as has been admitted by successive Governors, there is but one Roman Catholic member of the Provincial Parliament. It is, moreover, perfectly well known that the agitation against the present settlement of the Clergy Reserves has been conducted by Evangelical Protestants, both ministers and laymen, including lay members of the churches of England and Scotland. These are facts which cannot be disputed in Canada. It is true that the Roman Catholic members of the House, or a majority of them, have felt it their duty to aid the great majority of the people of Upper Canada in obtaining a more satisfactory settlement of a question in which the latter feel the deepest interest.

The Memorial under consideration affirms that the Address praying the repeal of the Imperial Act was, "in its leading principles, carried by a very slender majority in the House of Assembly." The "leading principle" of the Address was the repeal of the Imperial Act, or an affirmation that the present settlement is an unsatisfactory one. It will be found by reference to the votes and proceedings in the House, that an amendment was introduced by the Hon. Mr. Cayley, that it is "inexpedient to disturb or unsettle" the existing law. Here there is a test of the opinion of the House regarding the "leading principle." The division was 16 to 52. The 16 were all members of the Churches of England and Scotland. Of the majority of 52, 26 are certainly Protestants, including members of the Church of England, Presbyterians, Methodists, and other denominations: 26 are Roman Catholics. The "slender majority" referred to in the Memorial will be found to have been that by which the 29th resolution was carried. On analysing that division it will be found that the "slender majority" was caused, 1st, By the secession of certain French Canadian and Roman Catholic members, who could not concur in one part of the resolutions; 2ndly, By the secession of certain other members who would not consent to recognise the claims of existing incumbents. The representation that the slender majority was obtained by Roman Catholic votes will be found to be incorrect, in point of fact, as the Roman Catholic votes were equally divided, and the resolution was carried by a Protestant majority, though a slender one, for the reasons already stated. It is scarcely necessary to notice that part of the Memorial which alleges as a grievance to Protestants that the House of Assembly which has passed the Address has granted acts of incorporation to numerous bodies of Roman Catholics, "entitling them to hold fixed property." The Parliament of Canada has shown every desire to afford facilities to all denominations of Christians to hold property purchased with their own means for the support of religion, or the maintenance of educational and charitable institutions. It is certainly not inconsistent with this policy to object to the endowment with the property of the public of one or more favoured denominations of Christians.

It is alleged in the Memorial that "the object" of the Address is the diversion of the Clergy Reserves from the support of religion altogether to that of secular education from which religion is industriously excluded. This statement is incorrect in two particulars; 1st, The Address does not affirm the expediency of diverting the Clergy Reserves from religious to

CANADA.

educational purposes. 2ndly, It is not true religion is industriously excluded from the Canadian educational system; so far from this being the case, it is believed that there is no country in the world where greater facilities exist for affording religious instruction to the pupils of the various schools receiving public aid.

It may be proper to notice, in conclusion, that the Presbytery of Kingston, by which this Memorial is forwarded, though having a large extent of country under its care, has but four churches. It is not stated how many members were present when the Memorial was adopted. By the last returns in the possession of the writer of this Memorandum it appears that there were four ministers belonging to the Presbytery of Kingston, one of whom is a Professor in Queen's College, without a charge. On reference to the Population Returns for the counties of Frontenac, Lennox, and Addington, including the city of Kingston, it appears that the number belonging to the several Protestant churches is 30,986, of which 3,006 belong to the Presbyterian church in connexion with the Church of Scotland, while upwards of 16,000 belong to the denominations which feel themselves aggrieved by the operation of the present Act. Besides these, there were 6,554 Roman Catholics, who are also excluded. It is submitted whether it is at all probable that the excluded Protestants entertain general satisfaction with the Imperial Act, or whether the expression of "general satisfaction" in the Memorial should not have been confined to the 3,006 more immediately represented by the two or three ministers by whom the Memorial has been forwarded.

Toronto, March 11, 1851.

(Signed)

J. H. PRICE.

No. 3.

(No. 39.)

No. 3.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Earl of ELGIN AND KINCARDINE
to Earl GREY.

Government House, Toronto, March 15, 1851.

(Received April 7, 1851.)

(Answered April 10, 1851, No. 578, page 18.)

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to enclose herewith copies of petitions* from bodies connected with the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland, on the subject of the Clergy Reserves, and of a correspondence which has passed between the Provincial Secretary and Hugh Allan, Esq., Secretary to the Clergy Reserve Commissioners, in reference to these petitions.

The original petitions are to be sent to England by a special agent, and the copies which have reached me are not signed. Some of the allegations which they contain seem to be open to the objections which are stated in the memorandum which accompanies my Despatch, No. 38 †, of this day's date.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.

The Right Hon. Earl Grey,

&c. &c. &c.

Encl. in No. 3.

Enclosure in No. 3.

Unto the Right Honourable Charles Earl Grey, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, &c.

THE MEMORIAL of the Board of Commissioners elected by the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connexion with the Church of Scotland, in terms of the Act 3 and 4 Vict. c. 78., entitled "An Act," &c.,

HUMBLY SHOWETH,

THAT your Memorialists were duly appointed and constituted a Board of Commissioners for expending the share of the proceeds of sales of the land set apart for the support of a Protestant clergy appropriated to the Church of Scotland in Canada by virtue of the Act aforesaid.

That from the terms, "It is expedient to provide for the final disposition of the lands called 'Clergy Reserves in Canada,'" in the preamble of said Act, your Memorialists regarded the provisions therein contained as a final settlement of the question; and they have

* Copies of the four following petitions to Her Majesty, viz.—

1. From Ministers and Elders of Synod, Canada,
2. From Board of Commissioners elected by Synod,
3. From the Lay Association in support of the Presbyterian Church of Canada,
4. From Ministers and Congregation of St. Andrew's Church, Montreal,

Will be found printed at pages 22 to 26 from the original petitions enclosed in Mr. Morris's letter of May 15, 1851.

every reason to believe that they were received as such by Her Majesty's subjects generally in the province of Canada.

That though the share awarded, in terms of the said Act, to the Church of Scotland was not as much as the members of that church considered it entitled to receive, yet as the country had been long distracted with the subject, and a settlement of it was desirable for the public good, they acquiesced in the decision rather than that the agitation should be prolonged, to the manifest injury of the peace and prosperity of the colony.

That your Memorialists lament to perceive that by an address from the House of Assembly of this province, founded on a set of resolutions, one of which, involving the main principle, was carried only by a majority of two (and not sent to the Legislative Council), a large proportion of the members of which assembly are Roman Catholics, an attempt is made again to open up this question, and revive troubles and dissensions formerly experienced.

That the same House of Assembly has of late years almost unanimously granted Acts of Incorporation to numerous bodies of Roman Catholics, conferring upon them extensive privileges, and entitling them to hold fixed property to an enormous value.

That the object of the attempt now made is to dispossess the Church of Scotland and other religious bodies of any participation in the funds and lands specially set apart "for the maintenance of religion and the advancement of Christian knowledge within the said province of Canada," and thereby to withdraw from religion that support which it has hitherto received from this source.

That the evils which will result from the renewed discussion of this question are many and formidable affecting the tranquillity of the province, by exciting vehement agitation, and awakening the worst passions of rival parties, destroying all confidence in the security of rights granted by the beneficence of a pious monarch, and guaranteed by a British Act of Parliament, and, if the proposal now made be carried into effect, depriving many of the scattered settlements throughout the province of religious ordinances altogether, and leaving the religious instruction of a great proportion of the people (the surest bulwark of a nation) to men themselves ill-educated; for whatever may be said in favour of the voluntary system of religious support, from sad experience it is here most manifest that it would be utterly inadequate to the wants and circumstances of the country.

Wherefore your Memorialists, firmly persuaded of the magnitude of the evils to be apprehended, feel that they are no less bound by the claims of loyalty and citizenship than of fidelity in the administration of the trust reposed in them as commissioners to crave that your Lordship, in the legitimate exercise of your official functions, will advise Her Majesty, our beloved Sovereign the Queen, to decline to re-open this question, and leave the various religious bodies in possession of the advantage they now enjoy, accruing from the Clergy Reserves Fund, which, extending as they do to all religious denominations, can give no reasonable cause of offence to any.

And your Memorialists will ever pray.

SIR,

Montreal, January 6, 1851.

THE Commissioners of the Clergy Reserve Fund have adopted a Memorial to the Colonial Secretary, on the subject of the address passed last summer by the House of Assembly relative to the Reserves. This is now in course of signature, and will be ready for transmission in a few days.

I am not certain whether the proper course is to send such a document direct, or through the Governor-General, and will feel obliged if you will inform me.

There is also in preparation a series of petitions from all the congregations to the three branches of the Imperial Legislature, on the same subject, and I would be glad if you could inform me whether those to the Queen should be sent through the Governor-General. They will be about 70 in number, and rather bulky.

Your answer in course will oblige.

I have, &c.

Hon. James Leslie,
&c. &c.

HUGH ALLAN.

SIR,

Toronto, January 14, 1851.

I YESTERDAY received your letter of the 6th instant, stating that a Memorial was preparing to be sent to the Colonial Secretary, on the subject of the Address of the Assembly relative to the Clergy Reserves, as also petitions to Her Majesty and the two Houses of the Imperial Parliament, and desiring to be informed if those to the Queen and Earl Grey should be transmitted through the Governor-General.

With regard to petitions to Her Majesty, the regular course is, that they should be transmitted through the Queen's representative in the colony. As to the Memorial to the Colonial Secretary, I am not aware of the course necessary to adopt; but if not sent through the Governor, I have no doubt but it would be referred to him before any action was taken upon it by Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.

Hugh Allan, Esq.,
Montreal.

JAMES LESLIE.

CANADA.

SIR,

Montreal, March 6, 1851.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, for the information of his Excellency the Governor-General, copies of the various petitions, &c. on the subject of the Clergy Reserves, about to be forwarded to England from parties in connexion with the Presbyterian Church of Canada (Church of Scotland), in charge of a special agent, viz.—

1. Copy of memorial from the Clergy Reserve Commissioners to the Colonial Secretary.
2. Copy of petition to Her Majesty from the Clergy Reserve Commissioners.
3. Ditto, ditto, from the Synod.
4. Ditto, ditto, from the Lay Association.
5. Ditto, ditto, from the various congregations, 66 in number.

With respect to the remark in your letter of the 14th of January last, that "the regular course is that they should be transmitted through the Queen's representative in the colony," it is the opinion of the Commissioners that the regulations of the Colonial Department on the subject of correspondence were not intended, and do not apply in the present case; for in the first regulation it is distinctly stated, that "if a private individual residing in a colony has occasion to address any representation to the Secretary of State, he must at all times make the officer administering the colonial government the medium of his communication. The 4th and 5th regulations explain that the Governors of Colonies will receive with attention all representations properly addressed to them, and will either take such decisions on them as may appear most just, or refer them to the Secretary of State; and should the Governor's decision not prove satisfactory, he will receive any remonstrances, &c."

Now, I would submit that these petitions are not from a private individual, but from a branch of one of the established churches of the empire, and on a subject on which his Excellency the Governor-General has no power to decide, having himself, in compliance with the Address of the Legislative Assembly, transmitted their Address to the Imperial Government for its decision.

In the belief, therefore, that the course adopted will be no infringement of the regulations of the department, the petitions will be sent in charge of a special agent.

Hon. James Leslie, Provincial Secretary,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.

HUGH ALLAN,
Secretary to the Commissioners.

SIR,

Secretary's Office, Toronto, March 15, 1851.

I HAVE had the honour to receive and lay before the Governor-General your letter of the 6th instant, and the copies of the several petitions (5) therewith transmitted, on the subject of the Clergy Reserves, from parties in connexion with the Presbyterian Church of Canada (Church of Scotland), the originals of which petitions will, you state, be forwarded to England in charge of a special agent.

Hugh Allan, Esq.

Secretary to the Clergy Reserve Commissioners, Montreal.

I have, &c.

J. LESLIE.

No. 4.

No. 4.

(No. 82.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Earl of ELGIN AND KINCARDINE to
Earl GREY.

Government House, Toronto, June 21, 1851.

Received July 8, 1851.

MY LORD,

(Answered July 18, 1851, No. 626, page 20.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the copy of a letter which has been addressed to my secretary by the secretary to the Conference of the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Canada in connexion with the British Conference, together with a copy of the resolutions referred to in that letter.

I have, &c.

ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.

The Right Hon. Earl Grey,
&c. &c. &c.

18 June 1851.

Enclosure in No. 4.

CANADA.

Encl. in No. 4.

SIR,

Office, 57, King Street East, Wednesday, 18 June 1851.

At the twenty-eighth annual conference of the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Canada, in connexion with the British Conference, met in this city on the 4th instant, and continued by adjournment until Friday the 13th instant, it was resolved:

That a copy of the resolutions introduced by the Reverend Messrs. G. R. Sanderson and William Rycerson on the Clergy Reserve question, be sent to his Excellency the Governor-General, and another copy with a request to have it transmitted by him to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies.

In accordance with the terms of this minute, two copies of the resolutions are enclosed.

I have, &c.

Colonel the Hon. R. Bruce,
Secretary, &c.

JAMES MUSGRAVE,
Secretary to the Conference.

Sub-Enclosure to Enclosure in No. 4.

Sub-Encl. to
Encl. in No. 4.

Resolutions of the Conference of the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Canada, in connexion with the British Conference, on the subject of the Clergy Reserves.

Ques. 17.—What is the judgment of this Conference on the present position of the question of the Clergy Reserves?

Ans.—After a review and careful Consideration of the general question, and of the just rights of the methodist portion of the community, which according to the last census amounts to one hundred and forty thousand souls, or one fifth of the population of Upper Canada, the Conference agrees unanimously in the adoption of the following Resolutions:—

1. That this Conference has ever viewed the Imperial Statute, 4th and 5th Victoria, chapter 78, an infringement of the constitutional rights of the people of Upper Canada, as possessed by them for nearly fifty years, involves the constitutional Act of 1791, 31st George 3d, chapter 31, wholly at variance with the sentiments and feelings of the Canadian people, and most unjust to the Wesleyan and several other religious denominations, constituting a large majority of the population of Upper Canada; that on these and several other public grounds this Conference, through its representatives, in a communication addressed by them to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, and dated London, July 27, 1840, earnestly remonstrated against the passing of said Act, 4th and 5th Victoria, chapter 78, when a Bill before Parliament.

2. That the said Act having not only done injustice to the great majority of the people of Upper Canada, but deprived the province of a right of legislation which it had long possessed, and on a subject affecting its highest social relations and dearest interests, this Conference has regarded the Clergy Reserve question, in its new aspect, as one between Canada and Great Britain, rather than one between different religious persuasions, and therefore as requiring provincial action rather than denominational agitation.

3. That this Conference has observed with regret the efforts of a portion of the clergy and members of the Churches of England and Scotland to secure peculiar pecuniary advantages for themselves, at the expense of perpetuating a wrong against their country, and against their brethren of other protestant churches.

4. That under these circumstances, this Conference, constituting by far the largest as well as the oldest body of protestant clergymen in Upper Canada, and exercising pastoral oversight over upwards of one thousand congregations, including more than one hundred thousand adherents, feels itself called upon to avow its cordial and unanimous concurrence in the efforts of our Legislative Assembly, at its last session, to obtain to this country the restoration of its constitutional rights of legislation on the subject of the Clergy Reserves; and this Conference desires at the same time to express its warmest gratitude for the decision of the Imperial Government to take the necessary steps to restore to the Canadian Legislature the power of disposing of the Clergy Reserves and the proceeds of the sales of them, according to the wishes of the people, as expressed through their representatives in Parliament assembled, a decision communicated by the Right Honourable the Earl Grey to his Excellency the Earl of Elgin in a despatch pervaded by sentiments and a spirit of just regard to the feelings and rights of Her Majesty's faithful Canadian subjects, among whom none have evinced more loyalty and devotedness than the clergy and congregations of the Wesleyan Methodists church in Upper Canada.

5. That this Conference protests against the administration of those clauses of the unjust Act, 4th and 5th Victoria, chapter 78, which add to the already disproportionate appropriations to the Churches of England and Scotland, while other clauses of the same Act relating to other religious persuasions are not administered at all, even in aid of denominational efforts to promote education; and this Conference also records its solemn protest against any measure for any endowment or grant in perpetuity to the Church of England or of Scotland, not secured upon equal conditions to every other protestant denomination in Upper Canada.

6. That this Conference avails itself of the present occasion of declaring its deter-

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mination of continuing to rely hereafter, as it has at all times heretofore done, upon the voluntary contributions of our congregations for the support of their pastors, feeling that we and our congregations have but one interest and one sentiment on all matters connected with the prosperity of our common country and the promotion of pure Christianity through the instrumentality of our church, and being determined ever to maintain inviolate those holy bonds of unity and oneness which have characterized the rise, progress, and wide extension of our labours as a religious body in Upper Canada.

No. 5.

(No. 85.)

No. 5.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Earl of ELGIN AND KINCARDINE
to Earl GREY.

Government House, Toronto, June 25, 1851.

(Received July 14, 1851.)

(Answered July 18, 1851, No. 624, page 19.)

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, with a view to its being laid at the foot of the Throne, the humble address of the Legislative Council of Canada to Her Majesty the Queen on the subject of the Clergy Reserves, together with the copy of an address to myself, presented by the House in a body, requesting me to forward the same.

The address to Her Majesty was passed on a division, by twelve votes to four.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.

The Right Hon. Earl Grey,
&c. &c. &c.

Encl. 1 in No. 5.

Enclosure 1 in No. 5.

To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN,

WE Your Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Council of Canada, in Provincial Parliament assembled, humbly approach Your Majesty with renewed assurances of attachment and devotion to Your Majesty's sacred person and Government.

We beg to return our humble and sincere thanks for the gracious manner in which Your Majesty has been pleased to receive the address of the Legislative Assembly of last session on the subject of the Clergy Reserves, and to assure Your Majesty of the great satisfaction which it has afforded this House and the province at large, to learn from the despatch of Your Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, that Your Majesty had been pleased to receive the said address graciously; that the object of the said address ought, in the opinion of Your Majesty's imperial advisers, to be acceded to, and that they would accordingly be prepared to advise Your Majesty to recommend to the Imperial Parliament that an Act should be framed giving to the Provincial Legislature full authority to make such alterations as it may think fit in the present arrangements in regard to those Reserves, provided that existing interests are respected.

Legislative Council,
Monday, June 23, 1851.

(Signed) ED. CARON,
Speaker.

Encl. 2 in No. 5.

Enclosure 2 in No. 5.

To His Excellency the Right Honourable James Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, Knight of the Most Ancient and Most Noble Order of the Thistle, Governor-General of British North America, and Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief in and over the Provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and the Island of Prince Edward, and Vice Admiral of the same, &c. &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

WE, Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Council of Canada, in Provincial Parliament assembled, approach your Excellency with our respectful request, that your Excellency will be pleased to transmit our humble address to Her most Gracious Majesty on the subject of the Clergy Reserves, in such a way as your Excellency may deem fit, in order that the same may be laid at the foot of the Throne.

Legislative Council,
Monday, June 23, 1851.

(Signed) ED. CARON,
Speaker.

No. 6.

CANADA.
No. 6.

(No. 86.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Earl of ELGIN AND KINCARDINE to
Earl GREY.

Government House, Toronto, June 25, 1851.

(Received July 14, 1851.)

MY LORD,

(Answered No. 625, July 18, 1851, p. 19.)

I HAVE the honour to enclose herewith the copy of a protest by certain members of the Legislative Council against the address from that body to Her Majesty on the subject of the Clergy Reserves, transmitted in my Despatch to your Lordship, No. 85, of this day's date.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.

The Right Hon. Earl Grey,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 6.

Encl. in No. 6.

PROTEST against Address to Her Majesty on the subject of the Clergy Reserves,
24th June 1851.

Dissentient,

- 1st, Because the address in question has been adopted as an amendment to a motion for a purpose totally different to such address, of which due notice had been given, and that no notice has been given of any intention to move the present address.
- 2dly, Because the House has refused to permit the discussion on the present address to be taken at a future day, or that the members should be specially convened to consider the same.
- 3dly, Because such decision virtually sets aside the Standing Order of this House, No. 19, which requires two days notice of any special motion, and which rule was framed to prevent the House being surprised into premature decision without due deliberation.
- 4thly, Because the address in question involves the most weighty matter which could be brought under the notice of this House, namely, an application to Her Majesty the Queen, to sanction the annulling an Act of the Imperial Parliament which provided for the maintenance of religious education for the protestants of Upper Canada and the support of the ministers of the same; as to which it is fit and becoming and highly important that every member of this House should have the opportunity of fully expressing his opinion.
- 5thly, Because Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies communicated to his Excellency the Governor-General that the British Government, upon the address of one branch of the Legislature and without any reference to this House, are prepared to require from the Imperial Parliament further legislation upon this subject, with a view to send back to Canadian legislation what a long experience has proved wholly incapable of satisfactory adjustment in this province.

(Signed) P. B. DE BLAQUIÈRE.
G. S. BOULTON.
JAS. GORDON.

No. 7.

No. 7.

(No. 89.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Earl of ELGIN AND KINCARDINE to
Earl GREY.

Government House, Toronto, July 4, 1851.

(Received July 21, 1851.)

MY LORD,

(Answered No. 628, July 28, 1851, page 20.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, in order that it may be laid at the foot of the Throne, the humble address to the Queen of Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects the Commons of Canada in Provincial Parliament assembled, on the subject of the Clergy Reserves, together with the copy of an address to me requesting me to forward the same.

I enclose likewise for your Lordship's information, a printed copy of the votes and proceedings of the Legislative Assembly for the 23d of June and the

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1st of July, on which days the former address was under discussion, in order that your Lordship may be apprised of the amendments proposed and the divisions taken on the occasion.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.

The Right Hon. Earl Grey,
&c. &c. &c.

Encl. 1 in No 7.

Enclosure 1 in No. 7.

To the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN,

WE, Your Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Canada, in Provincial Parliament assembled, beg leave respectfully to thank Your Majesty for the gracious manner in which Your Majesty has been pleased to receive our address of last Session, on the subject of the Clergy Reserves; and to assure Your Majesty of the great satisfaction which it has afforded to your faithful Commons and the province at large to learn from the despatch of the Right Honourable Earl Grey, Your Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, communicating such Your Majesty's gracious reception of our said address, that it has appeared to Your Majesty's Imperial Ministers that such address ought to be acceded to, and that they would accordingly be prepared to recommend to the Imperial Parliament that an Act should be passed, giving to the Provincial Legislature full authority to make such alterations as they may think fit in the existing arrangements with regard to those reserves, provided that existing interests are respected.

Legislative Assembly Hall, Toronto,
Tuesday, July 1, 1851.

A. N. MORIN,
Speaker.

Encl. 2 in No. 7.

Enclosure 2 in No. 7.

To His Excellency the Right Hon. James Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, Knight of the Most Ancient and Most Noble Order of the Thistle, Governor-General of British North America, and Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief in and over the Provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and the Island of Prince Edward, and Vice-Admiral of the same, &c. &c. &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

WE, Your Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Canada, in Provincial Parliament assembled, beg leave to inform your Excellency that we have passed an humble Address to Her Majesty, on the subject of the Clergy Reserves, and pray that your Excellency will be graciously pleased to transmit the same to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, to be by him laid at the foot of the throne.

Legislative Assembly Hall,
Tuesday, July 1, 1851.

A. N. MORIN,
Speaker.

Encl. 3 in No. 7.

Enclosure 3 in No. 7.

EXTRACT from the VOTES and PROCEEDINGS of the LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Toronto, Monday, June 23, 1851.

Hon. Mr. Price moved, That an humble Address be presented to Her Most Gracious Majesty, thanking Her Majesty for the gracious manner in which She has been pleased to receive the Address of this House of last Session, on the subject of the Clergy Reserves; and to assure Her Majesty of the great satisfaction which it has afforded to this House and the province at large, to learn from the despatch of the Right Honourable Earl Grey, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, communicating such Her Majesty's gracious reception of the said Address, that it has appeared to her Majesty's Imperial Ministers that such Address ought to be acceded to, and that they would accordingly be prepared to recommend to the Imperial Parliament that an Act should be framed, giving to the Provincial Legislature full authority to make such alterations as they may think fit in the existing arrangements with regard to those Reserves, provided that existing interests are respected.

Hon. Mr. Boulton moved in amendment, That the most direct, clear, and satisfactory mode of conveying to the Queen and Her Imperial Parliament the wishes of the Legislature of Canada on the subject of the Clergy Reserves, would be to pass an Act containing all the provisions intended to be adopted, with a clause suspending its operation until it shall have

received the express sanction of the British Parliament, a course which was most satisfactorily followed upon the subject of the Civil List in 1846:

That the Honourable Messrs. Price, Baldwin, Cayley, Morrison, and the mover, be a Committee to draught and report a Bill to this House, accordingly.

Yeas:—Messieurs Boulton of Norfolk, Fergusson, Hopkins, Mackenzie, and Notman,—5.

Nays:—Messieurs Armstrong, Badgley, Attorney-General Baldwin, Bell, Boulton of Toronto, Boutillier, Burritt, Cameron of Cornwall, Cartier, Cauchon, Cayley, Chabot, Chauveau, Christie, Crysler, De Witt, Dickson, Solicitor-General Drummond, Duchesnay, Dumas, Flint, Fortier, Fournier, Fourquin, Guillet, Jobin, Johnson, Lacoste, Attorney-General La Fontaine, La Terrière, Laurin, Lemieux, Letellier, Solicitor-General Macdonald, Macdonald of Kingston, Sir Allan N. MacNab, Malloch, McLean, Merritt, Meyers, Polette, Price, Richards, Robinson, Sanborn, Sauvageau, Scott of Two Mountains, Seymour, Sherwood of Toronto, Smith of Wentworth, Stevenson, and Wilson,—52.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Price, the further consideration of the main motion was postponed till Wednesday next; and to be then the first order of the day.

EXTRACT from the VOTES and PROCEEDINGS of the LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Toronto, Tuesday, July 1, 1851.

The House, according to order, resumed the further consideration of the question which was on Monday, the 23d instant, proposed—That an humble address be presented to Her Most Gracious Majesty, thanking Her Majesty for the gracious manner in which she has been pleased to receive the address of this House of last session on the subject of the Clergy Reserves; and to assure Her Majesty of the great satisfaction which it has afforded to this House and the province at large, to learn from the despatch of the Right Honourable Earl Grey, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, communicating such Her Majesty's gracious reception of the said address, that it has appeared to Her Majesty's Imperial Ministers that such address ought to be acceded to, and that they would accordingly be prepared to recommend to the Imperial Parliament that an Act should be framed, giving to the Provincial Legislature full authority to make such alterations as they may think fit in the existing arrangements with regard to those Reserves, provided that existing interests are respected:

Hon. Mr. Cayley moved in amendment, to resolve, "That it is inexpedient to disturb or unsettle by resolution or enactment the appropriations or endowments now existing in Upper and Lower Canada for religious purposes: That the well-being of society, and the growing wants of the various Christian bodies in Canada demand that the several provisions of the Imperial Act, 3 & 4 Vict. c. 78, should be carried out to their fullest extent: That by the said Act one half of the interest arising from all Clergy Reserve sales, made under the provisions of the said Act, was placed at the disposal of the Governor of Canada with the advice of the Executive Council, for the purposes of public worship and religious instruction: That the amount now at the disposal of the Government exceeds ten thousand pounds, and is rapidly accumulating: That the annual sales of Reserves are large; and, adopting the estimate of the Chief Commissioner of Crown Lands, will ultimately yield a revenue, at the disposal of the Government, exceeding fifty thousand pounds per annum: That it is expedient that the fund in hand, and the future revenues placed by the said Act at the disposal of the Government, should be apportioned among the Roman Catholic, Free Church of Scotland, Presbyterian, Methodist, Baptist, Lutheran, and other Christian bodies heretofore unprovided for, and who will receive the same; such apportionment to be definitively made according to the next census to be taken, meanwhile according to the last population returns."

Yeas:—Messieurs Badgley, Boulton of Toronto, Cameron of Cornwall, Cayley, Dickson, Sir Allan N. MacNab, Malloch, Meyers, Robinson, Seymour, Sherwood of Brockville, Sherwood of Toronto, and Stevenson,—13.

Nays:—Messieurs Armstrong, Attorney-General Baldwin, Bell, Boulton of Norfolk, Boutillier, Burritt, Cartier, Cauchon, Chabot, Chauveau, Solicitor-General Drummond, Duchesnay, Dumas, Fergusson, Flint, Fournier, Fourquin, Guillet, Hall, Hincks, Holmes, Hopkins, Jobin, Lacoste, Attorney-General La Fontaine, La Terrière, Laurin, Lemieux, Letellier, Solicitor-General Macdonald, Mackenzie, McConnell, McFarland, Merritt, Méthot, Mongenais, Morrison, Nelson, Papineau, Polette, Price, Richards, Ross, Sanborn, Sauvageau, Scott of Two Mountains, Smith of Durham, Smith of Wentworth, Taché, and Wilson,—50.

Hon. Mr. Sherwood then moved an amendment to the main question, "That an humble address be presented to Her Majesty, thanking Her Majesty for the gracious manner in which She has been pleased to receive the address of this House, of the last session, on the subject of the Clergy Reserves; to assure Her Majesty that this House, and the province at large, feel deeply grateful for the communication received from the Right Honourable Earl Grey, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, conveying Her Majesty's answer thereto, intimating Her Majesty's readiness to accede to the wishes of the people of Canada in matters exclusively affecting their interests; and further, to assure Her Majesty that this House feels under the highest obligation to Her Majesty's Imperial Ministers for the kind and proper consideration they have manifested in the future welfare and prosperity of this province, in giving expression, in the

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“ said despatch, to a feeling of deep regret that a subject of so much difficulty as that of the
 “ Clergy Reserves should, after an interval of some years, have again been brought under
 “ discussion, and giving it as their judgment that the advantages to this province would be
 “ great by leaving undisturbed the existing arrangement, whereby certain portions of the
 “ public lands of Canada are made available for the purposes of creating a fund for the
 “ religious instruction of its inhabitants.”

Yeas:—Messieurs Badgley, Cameron of Cornwall, Dickson, Malloch, Meyers, Robinson, Seymour, Sherwood of Brockville, Sherwood of Toronto, and Stevenson,—10.

Nays:—Messieurs Armstrong, Attorney-General Baldwin, Boulton of Norfolk, Boutillier, Burritt, Cartier, Cauchon, Chabot, Chauveau, Solicitor-General Drummond, Duchesnay, Fergusson, Flint, Fortier, Fournier, Fourquin, Guillet, Hincks, Holmes, Hopkins, Jobin, Johnson, Lacoste, Attorney-General La Fontaine, La Terrière, Laurin, Lemieux, Solicitor-General Macdonald, Mackenzie, McConnell, McFarland, Merritt, Méthot, Mongenais, Morrison, Nelson, Papineau, Polette, Price, Richards, Sanborn, Sauvageau, Scott of Two Mountains, Smith of Durham, Smith of Wentworth, and Wilson,—46.

Mr. Mackenzie then moved to resolve, in amendment to the main question, “ That the
 “ Clergy Reserves, originally bestowed by the Constitutional Act upon a Protestant
 “ clergy exclusively, having been already diverted from that purpose by appropriating
 “ them also to the Roman Catholic Church, it is both warranted by past practice and by
 “ the often expressed opinion of the people of Upper Canada, that future civil and religious
 “ tranquillity should be secured by the final diversion of these Reserves from all ecclesiastical and church purposes whatever, and by their application to a general system of
 “ education whereby persons of all classes in society, and of all creeds in religion, will alike
 “ profit.”

Yeas:—Messieurs Boulton of Norfolk, Hopkins, Mackenzie, and McFarland,—4.

Nays:—Messieurs Armstrong, Badgley, Attorney-General Baldwin, Bell, Boulton of Toronto, Boutillier, Burritt, Cameron of Cornwall, Cartier, Cauchon, Chabot, Chauveau, Dickson, Dumas, Flint, Fortier, Fournier, Fourquin, Guillet, Hall, Hinckes, Holmes, Jobin, Johnson, Lacoste, Attorney-General La Fontaine, La Terrière, Laurin, Lemieux, Letellier, Solicitor-General Macdonald, Sir Allan N. MacNab, Malloch, McConnell, Merritt, Méthot, Meyers, Mongenais, Morrison, Nelson, Papineau, Polette, Price, Richards, Robinson, Ross, Sanborn, Sauvageau, Scott of Two Mountains, Seymour, Sherwood of Brockville, Sherwood of Toronto, Smith of Durham, Smith of Wentworth, Stevenson, and Wilson,—56.

The main question was then put and agreed to.

Yeas:—Messieurs Armstrong, Attorney-General Baldwin, Bell, Boutillier, Burritt, Cartier, Cauchon, Chabot, Chauveau, Dumas, Flint, Fortier, Fournier, Fourquin, Guillet, Hall, Hincks, Holmes, Jobin, Johnson, Lacoste, Attorney-General La Fontaine, La Terrière, Laurin, Lemieux, Letellier, Solicitor General Macdonald, McConnell, McFarland, Merritt, Méthot, Mongenais, Morrison, Nelson, Papineau, Polette, Price, Richards, Ross, Sanborn, Sauvageau, Scott of Two Mountains, Smith of Durham, Smith of Wentworth, and Wilson,—45.

Nays:—Messieurs Badgley, Boulton of Norfolk, Boulton of Toronto, Cameron of Cornwall, Cayley, Dickson, Hopkins, Mackenzie, Sir Allan N. MacNab, Malloch, Meyers, Robinson, Seymour, Sherwood of Brockville, Sherwood of Toronto, and Stevenson,—16.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Price, a select committee was appointed to prepare and report the draught of an address to Her Majesty, founded on the foregoing resolution.

The following address was then reported and agreed to, and ordered to be engrossed :

“ TO THE QUEEN’S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

“ Most Gracious Sovereign,

“ We, Your Majesty’s dutiful and loyal subjects the Commons of Canada, in Provincial Parliament assembled, beg leave respectfully to thank Your Majesty for the gracious manner in which Your Majesty has been pleased to receive our address of last session, on the subject of the Clergy Reserves, and to assure Your Majesty of the great satisfaction which it has afforded to Your faithful Commons and the Province at large, to learn from the despatch of the Right Honourable Earl Grey, Your Majesty’s Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, communicating such Your Majesty’s gracious reception of our said address, that it has appeared to Your Majesty’s Imperial Ministers that such address ought to be acceded to, and that they would accordingly be prepared to recommend to the Imperial Parliament that an Act should be passed giving to the Provincial Legislature full authority to make such alterations as they may think fit in the existing arrangements with regard to those Reserves, provided that existing interests are respected.”

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. Price an address was then voted to his Excellency, informing him that this House has voted an humble address to Her Majesty on the subject of the Clergy Reserves, and praying he will be pleased to transmit the same to Her Majesty’s Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, to be laid at the foot of the Throne; and ordered to be engrossed.

It was also ordered, That the said addresses be presented to his Excellency by such members of this House as are of the Honourable the Executive Council of this Province.

No. 8.

CANADA.

(No. 111.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Earl of ELGIN AND KINCARDINE to
Earl GREY.

Government House, Toronto, September 29, 1851.

(Received October 20, 1851.)

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith certified copies of three Bills passed during the late session of the Provincial Parliament, entitled respectively " *An Act to provide for the establishment of a Church Society of the United Church of England and Ireland in each diocese of that Church in Lower Canada, and for other purposes connected with the recent division of the Diocese of Quebec ; " *An Act to make provision for the Management of the Temporalities of the United Church of England and Ireland in the Diocese of Montreal, and for other Purposes therein mentioned ; " and " An Act to repeal so much of the Act of Parliament of Great Britain passed in the Thirty-first Year of the Reign of King George the Third, and chaptered Thirty-one, as relates to Rectories and the Presentation of Incumbents to the same ; and for other Purposes connected with such Rectories. "

These Bills have been reserved for the signification of Her Majesty's pleasure on them, under the provisions of the forty-second section of the Union Act, which requires that Bills of this nature shall be laid before Parliament before they receive Her Majesty's assent. They are accompanied by addresses from the Legislative Council and Assembly, praying me to transmit them to England for this purpose.

I enclose herewith copies of the reports of the Attornies General upon these Bills.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.

The Right Hon. Earl Grey,
&c. &c. &c.

Encl. in No. 8.

Enclosure in No. 8.

Crown Law Department, Toronto,
August 30, 1851.

SIR,

IN obedience to the commands of his Excellency the Governor General with which I have been honoured, in reference to a Bill passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, intituled " An Act to repeal so much of the Act of the Parliament of Great Britain passed in the Thirty-first Year of the Reign of King George the Third, and chaptered Thirty-one, as relates to Rectories and the Presentation of Incumbents to the same, and for other Purposes connected with such Rectories, " I beg to report, for the information of his Excellency, that, having perused the above Bill, I am of opinion that it comes within the provisions of the forty-second section of the Union Act, which requires that Bills for any of the purposes therein mentioned shall, previously to any declaration or signification of Her Majesty's assent thereto, be laid before both Houses of the Imperial Parliament, there to remain thirty days ; and that no such Bill shall be valid or effectual within the Province of Canada unless the Legislative Council and Assembly of such province shall, in the session in which the same shall have been passed, have presented an address or addresses specifying that such Bill contains provisions for some of the purposes in the said section specially described, and desiring that, in order to give effect to the same, such Bill may be transmitted to England without delay, for the purpose of being laid before Parliament, previously to the signification of Her Majesty's assent thereto.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ROBT. BALDWIN.

Enclosure in No. 8.

Encl. in No. 8.

AN ACT to repeal so much of the Act of the Parliament of Great Britain, passed in the thirty-first year of the reign of King George the Third, and chaptered thirty-one, as relates to Rectories, and the Presentation of Incumbents to the same, and for other Purposes connected with such Rectories.

Whereas the recognition of legal equality among all religious denominations is an admitted principle of Colonial legislation : And whereas, in the state and condition of this province, to which such a principle is peculiarly applicable, it is desirable that the same

* These Bills are not printed with this collection. They have been laid before Parliament and separately printed.

CANADA.

should receive the sanction of direct legislative authority, recognizing and declaring the same as a fundamental principle of our civil polity: Be it therefore declared and enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and of the Legislative Assembly of the province of Canada, constituted and assembled by virtue of and under the authority of an Act passed in the Parliament of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and intituled "An Act to re-unite the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, and for the Government of Canada," and it is hereby declared and enacted by the authority of the same, That the free exercise and enjoyment of religious profession and worship, without discrimination or preference, so as the same be not made an excuse for acts of licentiousness, or a justification of practices inconsistent with the peace and safety of the province, is by the constitution and laws of this province allowed to all Her Majesty's subjects within the same.

And whereas the provisions of the Act of the Imperial Parliament of Great Britain, passed in the thirty-first year of the reign of His late Majesty King George the Third, intituled "An Act to repeal certain parts of an Act passed in the fourteenth year of His Majesty's reign, intituled 'An Act for making more effectual provision for the Government of the Province of Quebec in North America,' and to make further Provision for the Government of the said Province," whereby the erection of parsonages or rectories in this province according to the Establishment of the Church of England, the endowment of such parsonages or rectories out of the Clergy Reserves, and the presentation of incumbents or ministers to such parsonages or rectories, is vested in the Government of this province, have been found to give occasion to doubts and apprehensions, which it is desirable should be removed by the repeal of the same under the power for that purpose vested in the Provincial Parliament by the provisions of the said Imperial Act: Be it therefore enacted, That the thirty-eighth, thirty-ninth, and fortieth sections of the said Act shall be and the same are hereby repealed, and that from henceforth no Letters Patent shall be issued in this province by the Crown for the erection of any such parsonages or rectories, or for the endowment thereof out of the Clergy Reserves or the public domain, or for the presentation of any incumbent or minister to any such parsonage or rectory: Provided always, that neither such repeal, nor anything herein contained, shall in anywise affect any proceeding heretofore had, whereby certain parsonages or rectories were erected and endowed, or supposed to be erected and endowed, by the authority aforesaid, or whereby certain incumbents or ministers were presented, or supposed to be presented, under the same authority, to such parsonages or rectories, or any of them, but the legality or illegality of all such proceedings shall be left open to be adjudicated upon and determined as if this Act had not been passed: And provided also, that nothing herein contained shall extend or be construed to extend to limit or in any way affect or interfere with the provisions of the twenty-seventh section of the Act of the Parliament of this province, passed in the session thereof held in the fourth and fifth years of Her Majesty's reign, intituled "An Act for the disposal of public lands."

And be it enacted, That in the event of its being judicially decided that any of such parsonages or rectories were erected according to law, and until a judicial decision shall be obtained on such question, the right of presenting an incumbent or minister to such parsonage or rectory shall vest in and be exercised by the Church Society of the Church of England diocese within which the same shall be situated, or in such other person or persons, bodies politic or corporate, as such Church Society, by any byelaw or byelaws to be by them from time to time passed for that purpose, shall or may think fit to direct or appoint in that behalf.

I certify the above to be a true copy of a Bill passed by the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly of the province of Canada, in the fourth session of the third Provincial Parliament, and reserved by His Excellency the Governor General for the signification of Her Majesty's pleasure thereon, on the thirtieth day of August, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one.

(Attest) J. JOSEPH, Clerk Legislative Council.

No. 9.

(No. 118.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Earl of ELGIN AND KINCARDINE to
Earl GREY.

Government House, Quebec, October 24, 1851.

(Received November 10, 1851.)

MY LORD,

(Answered by No. 672, December 29, 1851, p. 20.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the resolutions of the Legislative Council and Assembly on the subject of the reserved Bills enclosed in my Despatch No. 111, of the 29th of September, showing that the addresses

praying for the transmission of the said Bills, were duly voted by the Houses, in accordance with the provisions of the 42d section of the Union Act.

These Resolutions ought to have been enclosed in my despatch, No. 111,* of the 29th of September, but were accidentally omitted.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.

The Right Hon. Earl Grey,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 9.

Encl. in No. 9.

Legislative Assembly, Saturday, August 30, 1851.

Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to his Excellency the Governor General, informing his Excellency that both Houses of the Provincial Parliament have, in this present Session thereof, passed a Bill, intituled "An Act to repeal so much of the Imperial Act 31 Geo. 3. chap. 31. as relates to Rectories, and the Presentation of Incumbents to the same," which Bill repeals the several provisions contained in the Act of the Imperial Parliament of Great Britain passed in the 31st year of the reign of King George the Third, intituled "An Act to repeal certain parts of an Act passed in the fourteenth year of His Majesty's Reign, intituled 'An Act for making more effectual provision for the Government of the Province of Quebec, in North America, and to make further provision for the Government of the said Province,'" respecting the constituting, erecting, and endowing of parsonages or rectories within this province, and respecting the presentation of incumbents or ministers of the same; and that this House prays, that, in order to give effect to the said Bill, his Excellency will be pleased to cause the same to be transmitted to England without delay, for the purpose of its being laid before the Imperial Parliament previously to the signification of Her Majesty's assent thereto, pursuant to the provisions of the forty-second section of the Union Act.

Ordered, That the said Address be presented to his Excellency the Governor General, by such Members of this House as are of the Honorable the Executive Council of this Province.

(Attest) W. B. LINDSAY,
Clerk of the Assembly.

(No. 8.)

No. 10.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Earl of ELGIN AND KINCARDINE to Earl GREY.

Government House, Quebec,
January 23, 1852.

MY LORD,

(Received February 9, 1852.)

IN reply to your Despatch, No. 672,* of the 29th December last, I have to express my regret that, through some misunderstanding, the resolution of the Legislative Council on the Bill relating to Rectories was not sent together with that of the Legislative Assembly, and I have now the honour to forward it pursuant to your Lordship's instructions.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.

The Right Hon. Earl Grey,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 10.

Legislative Council, Saturday, August 30, 1851.

Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to his Excellency the Governor General, informing his Excellency that both Houses of the Provincial Parliament have in this present Session thereof passed a Bill, intituled "An Act to repeal so much of the Imperial Act 31 Geo. 3. chap. 31. as relates to Rectories, and the Presentation of Incumbents to the same," which Bill repeals the several provisions contained in the Act of the Imperial Parliament of Great Britain passed in the 31st year of the reign of King George the Third, intituled "An Act to repeal certain parts of an Act passed in the fourteenth year of His Majesty's Reign, intituled 'An Act for making more effectual provision for the Government of the Province of Quebec in North America,' and to make further provision for the Government of the said province," respecting the constituting, erecting, and endowing of parsonages or rectories within this province, and respecting the presentation of incumbents or ministers of the same; and that this House prays, that in order to give effect to the said Bill his Excellency will be pleased to cause the same to be transmitted to England without delay, for the purpose of its being laid before the Imperial Parliament previously to the signification of Her Majesty's assent thereto, pursuant to the provisions of the forty-second section of the Union Act.

Ordered, That such Members of the Executive Council who are Members of this House do present the said Address to his Excellency the Governor General.

(Attest) J. JOSEPH,
Clerk of Legislative Council.

CANADA.

**Despatches from the Right Hon. Earl Grey,
Secretary of State.**

No. 1.

No. 1.

(No. 578.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Earl GREY to the Earl of ELGIN AND
KINCARDINE.

MY LORD,

Downing Street, April 10, 1851.

* Page 6.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch,* No. 39, of the 15th of March, enclosing copies of petitions to Her Majesty, from bodies connected with the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland, on the subject of the Clergy Reserves, together with copies of a correspondence which has passed between the Provincial Secretary and the Secretary to the Clergy Reserve Commissioners in reference to these petitions.

Whenever the original petitions arrive, which your Lordship informs me are to be sent to this country by a special agent, they will be duly laid before the Queen.

The Earl of Elgin,
&c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GREY.

No. 2.

No. 2.

(No. 609.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Earl GREY to the Earl of ELGIN AND
KINCARDINE.

MY LORD,

Downing Street, June 13, 1851.

* Page 4.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 15th March,* No. 38, transmitting Memorials addressed to the Queen and the two Houses of Parliament, by the Presbytery of Kingston in connexion with the Church of Scotland, on the subject of the Clergy Reserves in Canada.

I have to request that your Lordship will inform the Presbytery that I have laid their Memorial before Her Majesty, and that I have presented their Memorial to the House of Lords; but that, as I find that the Memorial transmitted with your despatch for presentation to the House of Commons has been already presented to that House by Mr. Baird, no interference on my part with reference to it has been necessary.

The Earl of Elgin,
&c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GREY.

No. 3.

No. 3.

(No. 617.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Earl GREY to the Earl of ELGIN AND
KINCARDINE.

MY LORD,

Downing Street, July 11, 1851.

IN my despatch of the 27th † of January last I stated to your Lordship that, in consequence of the Address to Her Majesty of the House of Assembly which you transmitted to me in your despatch, No. 198, ‡ of the 19th of July, 1850, it was the intention of Her Majesty's servants to recommend to Parlia-

† Page 6. } Papers relative to Clergy Reserves in Canada, presented to both Houses of Parlia-
‡ Page 1. } ment, by Her Majesty's command, February 1851.

ment that an Act should be passed, giving to the Provincial Legislature full authority to make such alterations as they may think fit in the existing arrangements with regard to the Clergy Reserves, providing that existing interests are respected.

I have now to inform your Lordship, with reference to the above communication, that, from the meeting of Parliament up to the present time, business of so much urgency has occupied the attention of the House of Commons that it has hitherto been impossible for Her Majesty's servants to submit to that House a measure for giving effect to the wishes of the people of Canada on this subject, as expressed by their representatives, and that the remaining portion of the present session would not afford a sufficient opportunity for the discussion of a measure of so much importance, and upon which it is probable there may be much difference of opinion. In these circumstances Her Majesty's servants are compelled to postpone to another session the introduction of the Bill, to which, in accordance with the intention they have expressed, it is their intention to ask the assent of Parliament.

It has not been without great reluctance that we have decided upon thus delaying the proposal of a measure for which it appears that much anxiety is felt by the people of Canada; but, on the other hand, it has appeared to us that it would be better to incur even this delay, greatly as we have regretted it, than to bring the subject under the consideration of Parliament until it should be in our power to do so in the manner best calculated to ensure the success of the measure which we shall propose.

I trust that it will be practicable to submit this measure to Parliament early in the next session.

I have to instruct your Lordship to communicate this despatch to both Houses of Parliament of Canada.

The Earl of Elgin,
&c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GREY.

(No. 624.)

No. 4.

No. 4.

COPY of a DESPATCH from EARL GREY to the Earl of ELGIN AND
KINCARDINE.

MY LORD,

Downing Street, July 18, 1851.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch* No. 85, of the 25th ultimo, transmitting an address from the Legislative Council of Canada on the subject of the Clergy Reserves, and I have to acquaint your Lordship that I have duly laid this address before the Queen.

* Page 10.

The Earl of Elgin,
&c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GREY.

(No. 625.)

No. 5.

No. 5.

COPY of a DESPATCH from EARL GREY to the Earl of ELGIN AND
KINCARDINE.

MY LORD,

Downing Street, July 18, 1851.

I HAVE received your Lordship's despatch, No. 86,* of the 25th of June, enclosing the copy of a protest by certain members of the Legislative Council against the address of that body to Her Majesty, transmitted in your despatch, No. 85, of 25th ultimo.

* Page 11.

The Earl of Elgin,
&c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GREY.

CANADA.
No. 6.

(No. 626.)

No. 6.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Earl GREY to the Earl of ELGIN AND
KINCARDINE.

MY LORD,

Downing Street, July 18, 1851.

* Page 8.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch, No. 82,* of the 21st ultimo, enclosing the copy of a letter from the Secretary to the Conference of the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Canada in connexion with the British Conference, on the subject of the Clergy Reserves.

I have, &c.

The Earl of Elgin,
&c. &c.

(Signed) GREY.

No. 7.

No. 7.

(No. 628.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Earl GREY to the Earl of ELGIN AND
KINCARDINE.

MY LORD,

Downing Street, July 28, 1851.

* Page 11.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch, No. 89,* of the 5th instant, enclosing an Address to the Queen from the Legislative Assembly of Canada, on the subject of the Clergy Reserves. I have to instruct your Lordship to inform the House that I have laid their Address before the Queen, and that Her Majesty was pleased to receive it very graciously.

* Page 18.

My despatch, No. 617,* of the 11th instant, will have placed your Lordship in possession of the reasons which have compelled Her Majesty's Government to postpone the introduction of the intended Bill on this subject into the Imperial Parliament.

I have, &c.

The Earl of Elgin,
&c. &c.

(Signed) GREY.

No. 8.

No. 8.

(No. 672.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Earl GREY to the Earl of ELGIN AND
KINCARDINE.

MY LORD,

Downing Street, December 29, 1851.

* Page 16.

REFERRING to your Lordship's despatch, No. 118,* of the 24th October, forwarding Resolutions of the Legislative Council and Assembly of Canada on three of the Bills passed by them during the late session, and reserved by your Lordship for the signification of Her Majesty's pleasure, I have to call your attention to the absence of any Resolution of the Legislative Council on the Bill relating to Rectories.

I have to request your Lordship to supply this omission.

I have, &c.

The Earl of Elgin,
&c. &c.

(Signed) GREY.

Other Correspondence.

No. 1.

No. 1.

COPY of a LETTER from HENRY YOUNG, Esq., to B. HAWES, Esq.

Edinburgh, 3, Moray Place,
March 10, 1851.

SIR,

I HAVE been directed by the Colonial Committee of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland to transmit to you, in order that it may be laid before Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, an extract from their Minutes on the subject of the Canada Clergy Reserves, to which they have respectfully to request the attention of his Lordship.

Benjamin Hawes, Esq., M.P.,
Under Secretary of State,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. YOUNG.

Enclosure in No. 1.

Encl. in No. 1.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of a Meeting of the Acting Committee of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland's Committee on Colonial Churches, held at Edinburgh, the 24th day of February 1851.

The Colonial Committee of the General Assembly having had their attention called for the first time, to the recent Resolution of the Provincial Parliament of Canada in regard to the Clergy Reserves, and to the petition which the Synod of Canada has agreed to present to Her Majesty against any interference in the present arrangement of the Clergy Reserves, and having been earnestly requested by the Synod of Canada to further the views entertained by that body on this important subject, these views being in full accordance with the views entertained by this Committee, and having also had their attention directed to the communication from the Earl of Elgin to Earl Grey, dated 19th July 1850, and to the answer of Earl Grey thereto, dated the 27th of January last, both recently laid before Parliament, beg leave respectfully but firmly to express the unanimous opinion entertained by this Committee against the proposed interference with the Clergy Reserves, and with the Acts of Parliament by which these have been settled and appropriated, upon a footing which the Synod of Canada and the Church of Scotland, of which it forms a branch, and all the other parties interested therein, had reason to rely upon as a permanent settlement of the question, deliberately made, and prompted by a desire to prevent further agitation and further changes in regard to it.

The Colonial Committee have reason to know that the Church of Scotland and the Synod of Canada view the Clergy Reserve fund as of the utmost importance in securing and extending the benefits of public worship and religious instruction in Canada through the instrumentality of the churches deriving aid therefrom, and the Act 3 & 4 Victoria, chap. 78, as continuing distinctly to recognize the principle of an Establishment, and giving a clear vested interest in the Clergy Reserves to the parties therein named. The Colonial Committee, therefore, earnestly hope that Her Majesty's ministers, on a reconsideration of the subject, will see cause not to accede to the desire expressed by the House of Assembly of Upper Canada, or to recommend to Parliament that an Act should be passed giving to the Provincial Legislature full authority to make such alterations as they may think fit in the existing arrangements in regard to the Clergy Reserves, provided that existing interests are respected, but to allow matters to remain on their present footing. The Committee requested the Vice-convenor immediately to transmit an extract of this Resolution to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Extracted from the Minutes of the Acting Committee of the General Assembly's Committee on Colonial Churches, by

H. YOUNG, Secretary.

CANADA.

No. 2.

No. 2.

COPY of a LETTER from B. HAWES, Esq. to HENRY YOUNG, Esq.

SIR,

Downing Street, March 21, 1851.

I AM directed by Earl Grey to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th instant, enclosing an extract from the minutes of the Colonial Committee of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland on the subject of the Clergy Reserves in Canada.

Henry Young, Esq.
&c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. HAWES.

No. 3.

No. 3.

COPY of a LETTER from W. MORRIS, Esq. to Earl GREY.

64, Jermyn Street, St. James's, May 15, 1851.

(Answered May 23, 1851.)

MY LORD,

I BEG leave to hand you the accompanying parcel containing a Petition from the Synod of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland, to Her Majesty the Queen, praying that the Clergy Reserves of Canada may not be alienated from the purposes for which they were set apart; also another petition to the same effect from the Commissioners of that Church appointed under the Act 3 & 4 Vict. cap. 78.; and another from the Lay Association; which, with sixty-two petitions from the several congregations of that Church, I have to request that you will be pleased to lay before Her Majesty for Her Majesty's gracious consideration.

With the exception of the three first-named petitions, and five of those from the congregations, there is an expression in the others which it is proper I should explain, as it is incorrect, though not intentionally so. The 29th Resolution of the Assembly of Canada, upon which their Address to Her Majesty was founded, was the principal one of the series, and was carried by a majority of two only, and had it not been for the absence, when the vote was taken, of four members who were opposed to it, the question would have been lost.

This circumstance caused the person who was employed to prepare the draught of a petition for the congregations, to say that the Address was carried by a majority of two, in place of saying that the principal resolution of the series upon which it was founded was so carried.

The Right Hon. Earl Grey,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. MORRIS.

Unto Her most Gracious Majesty Victoria, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, with their Colonies and Dependencies, &c. &c. &c.

The Petition of the Ministers and Elders of the Synod of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland, now in Synod assembled.

HUMBLY SHOWETH,

THAT we, Your Majesty's loyal and faithful subjects in this province, attached by national origin and by religious convictions to the Established Church of Scotland, were, after a long advocacy of our rights, declared by the highest legal authorities of the empire to be entitled to participate in the munificent grant made by Your Majesty's Royal Grandfather King George III. for the maintenance of a Protestant clergy in Canada, and this right was solemnly acknowledged and guaranteed by an Act of the Imperial Parliament passed in the third and fourth years of Your Majesty's reign, cap. 78.

That Your Petitioners were induced to acquiesce in the statute aforesaid, though its provisions, as was then conceived, were inequitably unfavourable to our Church, on the ground that it was most desirable for the peace of the province, and the interest of pure religion within it, that this long agitated question should be settled by the Imperial Parliament; and, concurring in what appeared to be the prevailing wish of Your Majesty's subjects in this

province, that the Imperial Legislation on this question should be final, they have always implicitly relied on its finality as expressed in the preamble of the Act aforesaid in these terms, "It is expedient to provide for the final disposition of the lands called Clergy Reserves in Canada."

That ever since the passing of the statute aforesaid, your Petitioners, the Synod of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland, the Supreme Judicature of our Church in this province, in full reliance that the temporal aid secured to them might be deemed fixed and permanent, proceeded with greater zeal to invite qualified ministers to come to Canada, and settled them over congregations in destitute localities. And further, this synod for several years past has been using every exertion to train up a learned native ministry, employing, after the higher motives, the inducement that the aid to be derived from the Clergy Reserve Fund, supplemented by the liberality of the people, promised a secure though scanty support for them when they should be admitted to the ministerial office; and your Petitioners in these prospects have been enabled to extend the ministrations of the Church in Canada; and they entertained the hope, that as the fund increased, and the spiritual necessities of their people required, they might be able to provide ministers who should take oversight of the flock in the fear of God.

That your Petitioners, cherishing such hopes, and proceeding peaceably in their work, have been afflicted to see a new agitation stirred up on this question, which they had regarded as finally settled, and a series of resolutions passed in the Legislative Assembly, on which an Address to Your Majesty has been voted, to the effect that the Imperial Statute should be repealed, and the whole question be admitted to the Colonial Legislature to be dealt with anew.

That your Petitioners most humbly submit to Your Majesty, that such a course, if adopted, would produce most serious evils in this colony; it would shake the confidence of the best disposed in the stability of the institutions under which we have the happiness to live; it would renew the agitation and strife which for so many years convulsed the people of this province on this question; and if unhappily our Colonial Legislature should pursue a course which has among our promiscuous population many advocates, and divert the Clergy Reserve Fund from religious to secular purposes, your Petitioners could not but regard such an event as peculiarly afflictive and disastrous, both to the actual incumbents and to the spiritual well-being of future generations.

May it therefore please Your Majesty to consider favourably the prayer of your Petitioners, and to hold the existing law on the matter referred to as a final arrangement; that the congregations of our Church may continue to be assisted out of the Clergy Reserve Fund in the support of their ministers; and that we, and our posterity after us, may enjoy the blessing of pure Christianity, which teaches all orders of men to fear God and honour the King.

And Your Petitioners will ever pray.

J. MALCOLM SMITH, M.A.,
Moderator of Synod.

Unto Her most Gracious Majesty VICTORIA, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, with all their Colonies and Dependencies, &c. &c. &c.

THE MEMORIAL of the Board of Commissioners, elected by the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland, in terms of the Act 3 & 4 Victoria, cap. 78., entitled "An Act," &c.,

HUMBLY SHOWETH—

THAT your Memorialists were duly appointed and constituted a Board of Commissioners for expending the share of the proceeds of sales of the lands set apart for the support of a Protestant Clergy, appropriated to the Church of Scotland in Canada by virtue of the Act aforesaid.

That from the terms, "It is expedient to provide for the final disposition of the lands called Clergy Reserves in Canada," in the preamble of the said Act, your Memorialists regarded the provisions therein contained as a final settlement of the question; and they have every reason to believe that they were received as such by Your Majesty's subjects generally in the Province of Canada.

That though the share awarded, in terms of the said Act, to the Church of Scotland, was not as much as the members of that Church considered it entitled to receive, yet as the country had been long distracted with the subject, and a settlement of it was desirable for the public good, they acquiesced in the decision, rather than that the agitation should be prolonged, to the manifest injury of the peace and prosperity of the colony.

That your Memorialists lament to perceive that by an Address from the House of Assembly of this province, carried only by a narrow majority, a large proportion of the members of which assembly are Roman Catholics, an attempt is made again to open up this question, and revive the troubles and dissensions formerly experienced.

That the same House of Assembly has of late years almost unanimously granted Acts of Incorporation to numerous bodies of Roman Catholics, conferring upon them extensive privileges, and entitling them to hold fixed property to an enormous value.

That the object of the attempt now made is to dispossess the Church of Scotland and other religious bodies of any participation in the fund and lands specially set apart for

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the maintenance of religion and the advancement of Christian knowledge within the said Province of Canada," and thereby to withdraw from religion that support which it has hitherto received from this source.

That the evils which will result from the renewed discussion of this question are many and formidable, affecting the tranquillity of the province, by exciting vehement agitation, and awakening the worst passions of rival parties, destroying all confidence in the security of rights granted by the beneficence of a pious Monarch, and guaranteed by a British Act of Parliament, and, if the proposal now made be carried into effect, depriving many of the scattered settlements throughout the province of religious ordinances altogether, and leaving the religious instruction of a great proportion of the people (the surest bulwark of a nation) to men themselves ill-educated; for whatever may be said in favour of the voluntary system of religious support, from sad experience it is here most manifest that it would be utterly inadequate to the wants and circumstances of the country.

Wherefore your Memorialists, firmly persuaded of the magnitude of the evils to be apprehended, feel that they are no less bound by the claims of loyalty and citizenship than of fidelity in the administration of the trust reposed in them as Commissioners; to crave that Your most Gracious Majesty will decline to re-open this question, and leave the various religious bodies in possession of the advantages they now enjoy accruing from the Clergy Reserves Fund, which, extending as they do to all religious denominations, can give no reasonable cause of offence to any.

And your Memorialists will ever pray.

Signed in presence, in the name and by authority of the Board of Commissioners, by me,
ALEX. MATHIESON, D.D., Chairman.
HUGH ALLEN, Secretary.

Unto Her most Gracious Majesty Victoria, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, with all their Colonies and Dependencies, &c. &c. &c.

The Petition "of the Lay Association in support of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland,"

HUMBLY SHOWETH,

THAT your Petitioners are associated together with the view of extending assistance to poor congregations, educating young men for the ministry, and disseminating useful and instructive information respecting the Church of Scotland and the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion therewith.

That your Petitioners, attached by conviction and choice to the communion of the Church of Scotland, and feeling the warmest interest in its prosperity, have observed with regret that an attempt to re-open the settlement of the lands set apart for the support of "a Protestant clergy" is made by an Address of the Legislative Assembly of this province, based upon resolutions the principle of which was carried by a narrow majority in a House a large proportion of the members of which are Roman Catholics, and which has of late years granted with almost entire unanimity Acts of Incorporation to various sections of the Romish Church, enabling it to hold property to an enormous value.

That from the terms, "It is expedient to provide for the final disposition of the lands called Clergy Reserves in Canada," in the preamble of the Act 3 & 4 Viet. cap. 78., your Petitioners regarded the provisions therein contained as a final settlement of the question, and they have every reason to believe that they were received as such by Your Majesty's subjects generally in the province of Canada.

That though the share awarded in terms of the said Act to the Church of Scotland was not so much as the members of that Church considered it entitled to receive in its then condition, yet as the country had been long distracted with the subject, and a settlement of it was desirable for the public good, they acquiesced in the decision, rather than that the agitation should be prolonged, to the manifest injury of the peace and prosperity of the colony.

That the object of the attempt now made is to dispossess the Church of Scotland and other religious bodies of any participation in the fund and lands specially set apart "for the maintenance of religion and the advancement of Christian knowledge within the said province of Canada," and thereby to withdraw from religion that support which it has hitherto received from this source.

The evils which will result from the renewed discussion of this question are many and formidable, affecting the tranquillity of the province by exciting and vehement agitation, and awakening the worst passions of rival parties, destroying all confidence in the security of rights granted by the beneficence of a pious monarch, and guaranteed by a British Act of Parliament, and, if the proposal now made be carried into effect, depriving many of the scattered settlements throughout the province of religious ordinances altogether, and leaving the religious instruction of a great proportion of the people (the surest bulwark of a nation) to men themselves ill-educated; for, whatever may be said in favour of the voluntary system of religious support, from sad experience it is here most manifest that it would be utterly inadequate to the wants and circumstances of the country.

Wherefore your Petitioners, firmly persuaded of the magnitude of the evils to be apprehended, feel that they are no less bound by the claims of loyalty and citizenship than by the duty they owe to the Church of which they are members, and to the people of the colony generally, to beseech Your Majesty to withhold the Royal Assent from any measure for the repeal of the Act 3 and 4, chap. 78., of Your Majesty's reign.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

Signed in name and by authority of the Association,
HUGH ALLAN, Vice President.

Unto Her most Gracious Majesty Victoria Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, with all their Colonies and Dependencies, &c., &c., &c.

The Petition of the undersigned Minister and Congregation of Saint Andrew's Church, Montreal, belonging to the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland,

HUMBLY SHOWETH,

THAT by the Act passed by the Imperial Parliament in the third and fourth years of Your Majesty's reign, cap. 78., the lands unsold, and the proceeds of those sold, which had been set apart during the reign of His late Majesty George III., of pious memory, specially for the support of a Protestant clergy, to a participation in which the Church of Scotland had been declared by the unanimous opinion of the judges and law officers of the Crown to have a right, were divided in certain proportions between various sects in this country, and this division was looked upon and accepted by all parties, as it is declared in the preamble of the Act, to be a final settlement of the question.

That, though the share thus awarded to the Church to which your Petitioners belong was not as much as they considered it entitled to, yet, as the country had been for some time distracted with the subject, and a settlement of it was desirable for the public good, they acquiesced in the decision rather than continue the agitation.

That your Petitioners lament to perceive that, by an Address from the House of Assembly of this province, the principle of which was carried only by a small majority, a large proportion of the members of which Assembly are Roman Catholics, an attempt is made again to open this question, and thereby renew the troubles and dissensions formerly experienced.

That this same House of Assembly has of late years granted Acts of Incorporation to numerous bodies of Roman Catholics, by which extensive privileges are conferred upon them, and which entitle them to hold fixed property to an enormous value.

That the object of the attempt now made is to take away from your Petitioners and all other religious bodies any participation in the fund and lands thus specially set apart, thereby depriving religion of that support which it has hitherto obtained from this source.

That the effect of this alteration would be to debar many of the scattered settlements throughout the country where the minister's chief support is his allowance from the Reserve Fund of the ordinances of religion, and prevent the establishment of ministers and missionaries in the remote and thinly-settled parts of the country, where the people are still without the means of grace.

Wherefore your Petitioners humbly pray that Your Majesty will decline to re-open this question, but leave your Petitioners and other religious bodies in the enjoyment of the privileges they now possess.

And your Petitioners, both from duty and inclination, will ever pray.

(Signed) ALEX. MATHIESON, D.D.,

And 154 other signatures.

Unto the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.

The Petition of the undersigned Minister and Congregation of Saint Andrew's Church, Quebec, belonging to the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland,

HUMBLY SHOWETH,

THAT by the Act passed by the Imperial Parliament in the third and fourth years of Your Majesty's reign, cap. 78., the lands unsold, and the proceeds of those sold, which had been set apart during the reign of His late Majesty George III., of pious memory, specially for the support of a Protestant clergy, to a participation in which the Church of Scotland had been declared by the unanimous opinion of the judges and law officers of the Crown to have a right, were divided in certain proportions between various sects in this country, and this division was looked upon and accepted by all parties, as it is declared in the preamble of the Act, to be a final settlement of the question.

That, though the share thus awarded to the Church to which your Petitioners belong was not as much as they considered it entitled to, yet, as the country had been for some time

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distracted with the subject, and a settlement of it was desirable for the public good, they acquiesced in the decision rather than continue the agitation.

That your Petitioners lament to perceive that, by an Address from the House of Assembly of this province, not concurred in by the Legislative Council, a large proportion of the members of which Assembly are Roman Catholics, an attempt is made again to open this question, and thereby renew the trouble and dissensions formerly experienced.

That this same House of Assembly has of late years granted Acts of Incorporation to numerous bodies of Roman Catholics, by which extensive privileges are conferred upon them, and which entitle them to hold fixed property to an enormous value.

That the object of the attempt now made is to take away from your Petitioners, and all other religious bodies, any participation in the fund and lands thus specially set apart, thereby depriving religion of that support which it has hitherto obtained from this source.

That the effect of this alteration would be to debar many of the scattered settlements throughout the country, where the minister's chief support is his allowance from the Reserve Fund, of the ordinances of religion, and prevent the establishment of ministers and missionaries in the remote and thinly-settled parts of the country, where the people are still without the means of grace.

Wherefore, your Petitioners humbly pray that Your Majesty will decline to re-open this question, but leave your Petitioners, and other religious bodies in the enjoyment of the privileges they now possess.

And Your Majesty's Petitioners, both from duty and inclination, will ever pray.

(Signed)

JOHN COOK, D.D., Minister.

And 187 other signatures

Unto Her most Gracious Majesty Victoria, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, with all their Colonies and Dependencies, &c., &c., &c.

The Petition of the undersigned Minister, Elder, and Congregations of Saint Paul's Church, Montreal, belonging to the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland,*

HUMBLY SHOWETH,—

THAT by the Act passed by the Imperial Parliament in the third and fourth years of Your Majesty's reign, cap. 78., the lands unsold, and the proceeds of those sold, which had been set apart during the reign of His late Majesty George III., of pious memory, specially for the support of a Protestant clergy, to a participation in which the Church of Scotland had been declared by the unanimous opinion of the judges and law officers of the Crown to have a right, were divided in certain proportions between various sects in this country; and this division was looked upon and accepted by all parties, as it is declared in the preamble of the Act to be, a final settlement of the question.

That though the share thus awarded to the Church to which your Petitioners belong was not as much as they considered it entitled to, yet as the country had been for some time distracted with the subject, and a settlement of it was desirable for the public good, they acquiesced in the decision rather than continue the agitation.

That your Petitioners lament to perceive that by an Address from the House of Assembly of this province, founded on a series of resolutions, one of which, involving the main principle, was carried only by a majority of two, and not sent to the Legislative Council, a large proportion of the members of which Assembly are Roman Catholics, an attempt is made again to open this question, and thereby renew the troubles and dissensions formerly experienced.

That this same House of Assembly has of late years granted Acts of Incorporation to numerous bodies of Roman Catholics, by which extensive privileges are conferred upon them, and which entitle them to hold fixed property to an enormous value.

That the object of the attempt now made is to take away from your Petitioners and all other religious bodies any participation in the fund and lands thus specially set apart, thereby depriving religion of that support which it has hitherto obtained from this source.

That the effect of this alteration would be to debar many of the scattered settlements throughout the country, where the minister's chief support is his allowance from the Reserve Fund, of the ordinances of religion, and prevent the establishment of ministers and missionaries in the remote and thinly-settled parts of the country, where the people are still without the means of grace.

Wherefore your Petitioners humbly pray that Your Majesty will decline to re-open this question, but leave your Petitioners and other religious bodies in the enjoyment of the privileges they now possess.

And your Petitioners, both from duty and inclination, will ever pray.

(Signed)

ROBERT M'GILL, Minister.

And 51 other signatures.

* Similar petitions from the Minister and Congregation of St. Andrew's Church, Perth, dated March 10, 1851, with 105 signatures, and the Minister and Congregation of the First Church, Perth, dated March 10, 1851, with five signatures.

Unto Her most Gracious Majesty Victoria, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, with all their Colonies and Dependencies, &c. &c. &c.

The Petition of the undersigned Minister and Congregation of the township of Each, Canada West, belonging to the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland,

HUMBLY SHOWETH,

THAT by the Act passed by the Imperial Parliament in the third and fourth years of Your Majesty's reign, cap. 78., the lands unsold, and the proceeds of those sold, which had been set apart during the reign of His late Majesty George III., of pious memory, specially for the support of a Protestant clergy, to a participation in which the Church of Scotland had been declared by the unanimous opinion of the judges and law officers of the Crown to have a right, were divided in certain proportions between various sects in this country; and this division was looked upon and accepted by all parties, as it is declared in the preamble of the Act, to be a final settlement of the question.

That though the share thus awarded to the Church to which your Petitioners belong was not as much as they considered it entitled to, yet as the country had been for some time distracted with the subject, and a settlement of it was desirable for the public good, they acquiesced in the decision rather than continue the agitation.

That your Petitioners lament to perceive that by an Address from the House of Assembly of this province, carried only by a small majority, a large proportion of the members of which Assembly are Roman Catholics, an attempt is made again to open this question, and thereby renew the troubles and dissensions formerly experienced.

That this same House of Assembly has of late years granted Acts of Incorporation to numerous bodies of Roman Catholics, by which extensive privileges are conferred upon them, and which entitle them to hold fixed property to an enormous value.

That the object of the attempt now made is to take away from your Petitioners and all other religious bodies any participation in the funds and grants thus specially set apart, thereby depriving religion of that support which it has hitherto obtained from this source.

That the effect of this alteration would be to debar many of the scattered settlements throughout the country, where the minister's chief support is his allowance from the Reserve Fund, of the ordinances of religion, and prevent the establishment of ministers and missionaries in the remote and thinly-settled parts of the country, where the people are still without the means of grace.

Wherefore your Petitioners humbly pray that Your Majesty will decline to re-open this question, but leave your Petitioners and other religious bodies in the enjoyment of the privileges they now possess.

And your Petitioners, both from duty and inclination, will ever pray.

[Here follow 104 signatures.]

Unto Her most Gracious Majesty Victoria, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, with all their Colonies and Dependencies, &c., &c., &c.

The Petition of the undersigned Minister and Congregation of Huntingdon in the township of Godmanchester and of St. Michael's in the township of Hinchinbrook, district of Montreal, belonging to the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland,

HUMBLY SHOWETH,

THAT by the Act passed by the Imperial Parliament in the third and fourth years of Your Majesty's reign, cap. 78., the lands unsold, and the proceeds of those sold, which had been set apart during the reign of His late Majesty George III., of pious memory, specially for the support of a Protestant clergy, to a participation in which the Church of Scotland had been declared by the unanimous opinion of the judges and law officers of the Crown to have a right, were divided in certain proportions between various sects in this country, and this division was looked upon and accepted by all parties, as it is declared in the preamble of the Act to be, a final settlement of the question.

That though the share thus awarded to the Church to which your Petitioners belong was not as much as they considered it entitled to, yet as the country had been for some time distracted with the subject, and a settlement of it was desirable for the public good, they acquiesced in the decision rather than continue the agitation.

That your Petitioners lament to perceive, that by an Address from the House of Assembly of this province, carried only a majority of two, and not concurred in by the Legislative Council, a large proportion of the members of which Assembly are Roman Catholics, an attempt is made again to open this question, and thereby renew the troubles and dissensions formerly experienced.

That this same House of Assembly has of late years granted Acts of Incorporation to numerous bodies of Roman Catholics, by which extensive privileges are conferred upon them, and which entitle them to hold fixed property to an enormous value.

That the object of the attempt now made is to take away from your Petitioners and all other religious bodies any participation in the fund and lands thus specially set apart, thereby depriving religion of that support which it has hitherto obtained from this source.

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That the effect of this alteration would be to debar many of the scattered settlements throughout the country, where the minister's chief support is his allowance from the Reserve Fund, of the ordinances of religion, and prevent the establishment of ministers and missionaries in the thinly-settled and remote parts of the country, where the people are still without the means of grace.

Wherefore your Petitioners humbly pray that Your Majesty will decline to re-open this question, but leave your Petitioners and other religious bodies in the enjoyment of the privileges they now possess.

And your Petitioners, both from duty and inclination, will ever pray.

[Here follow 175 signatures.]

Similar petitions to the foregoing, addressed to Her Majesty, as follows, viz. :—

		No. of Signatures.
From Minister and Congregation of	Dalhousie, C. W.	42
"	Smith's Falls	69
"	St. Andrew's Church, Fergus	56
"	St. Louis, Beauharnois	62
"	Beauharnois	56
"	Martin Town, Glengary	347
"	New Richmond and New Carlisle	153
"	St. Andrew's Church, Seymour	137
"	St. John's Church, Cornwall	118
"	St. Andrew's Church, Guelph	42
"	Indian Lands	223
"	Lancaster	256
"	Dundee, Canada East	135
"	L'Original and Plantagenet	67
"	Valcartier	173
"	Beckwith	69
"	Finch	120
"	Markham	90
"	Chatham and Granville	247
"	Dalhousie Mills and Coté St. George	386
"	Mono	105
"	Township of Nelson	80
"	Chingaracusy	156
"	Richmond	122
"	Simcoe	177
"	Hornby and Trafalgar	70
"	Pickering	126
"	Westgwillinsbury and Innisfil	88
"	Lochiel	157
"	St. Andrew's Church, Niagara	60
"	Darlington	89
"	Stratford and Northcasthope	136
"	Williamsburg	348
"	Three Rivers	88
"	Osnabruck	60
"	Belleville	144
"	Eldon	222
"	Camden, East	33
"	Pakenham	149
"	St. Andrew's Church, Hamilton	66
"	" Toronto	68
"	South George Town	129
"	Ormsdown	230
"	Hemmingford	301
"	Lachme	61
"	Martintown	5
"	St. Andrew's Church, Milton, and Esquiring	112
"	Lanark and Middleton	87
"	St. Andrew's Church, Bytown	84
"	South Gower	116
"	Cotton Landing	78
"	Beauville	43
"	St. Andrew's Church, Kingston	406
"	Townships of Clark and Hope	107
"	Ramsay	78

COPY of a LETTER from B. HAWES, Esq., to W. MORRIS, Esq.

SIR,

Downing Street, May 23, 1851.

I AM directed by Earl Grey to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th of May, together with 65 petitions to the Queen, from the Synod in Canada and other bodies in connexion with the Church of Scotland, praying that the Clergy Reserves in Canada may not be alienated from the purposes for which they were set apart; and I am to acquaint you that his Lordship has duly laid these petitions before Her Majesty.

W. Morris, Esq.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. HAWES.

LONDON:

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