



NEC REGE, NEC POPULO, SED UTROQUE.

POETRY.

Original.

For the Chronicle.

TO LUCY.

Play a wagger, Lucy dear,
That you can play more tricks than many...

VARIETIES.

The following passage is from a letter addressed by Lord to Lady Byron, but not sent:
We both made a bitter mistake—but now it is over and irrevocably so.

CROSS READINGS.

Lost, a Lady's reticule, containing a new dry good store with a complete assortment of ironmongery.
The child of Mr. ... was made very sick by swallowing twelve dozen of Warren's liquid blacking just received.

THE METHODIST QUESTION.

The following documents accompanied the Report of the select committee of the House of Assembly...

Letter from the Rev. Egerton Ryerson, of the Methodist Church, to the Chairman.

Sir, The accompanying statements may appear at first thought unnecessary...

even now been too brief to do justice to a numerous religious community.
I beg leave to offer one word of explanation on the difference between a General and Annual Conference...

In the accompanying table of ministers, I have taken no notice of what are called Local Preachers. They are about 120 in number...

To C. A. Hagerman, Esq., Chairman of the Committee, &c. &c. &c.

This Petition refers to several subjects, on each of which I will with pleasure give such information as I possess, agreeably to the request of the honorable committee.

As far as it relates to the priesthood with which I have the happiness to be immediately connected, it is not according to my belief, foreign in any of the above significations of that term.

In order, that the Committee may be able to appreciate the correctness of this statement, and understand the whole subject to which it refers, I will here take the liberty to mention briefly the circumstances...

The first Methodist Itinerant preachers visited this Province in about the year 1790 or 1791, and came here in the character and capacity of Missionaries.

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a faithful allegiance to the British Government.

As soon as it was understood by the Methodist Societies in Upper Canada that these representations, though gratuitous and utterly unfounded, made an impression upon the mind of the Colonial Government...

The Methodist Conference in Canada, anxious to terminate, as soon as possible, a union, which now seemed to excite suspicions in the mind of the Government...

As this Memorial illustrates one important object of the honorable Committee's inquiry, namely, the feelings of the Methodist Priesthood in Canada towards the Government...

That petitions to the late General Conference having been forwarded from a numerous body in this country, praying for a separate connexion in Canada...

1st. The state of Society requires it—the first settlers having claimed the protection of His Britannic Majesty in the revolutionary war...

2d. A separate establishment appears to be expedient and necessary on account of the insulated and extended situation of the Societies in this country...

3d. A separate establishment appears necessary and expedient, on account of existing jealousies, lately awakened in the Government of this Province.

4th. To us it appears expedient and necessary, that the Societies here should be set off as a separate body; because that in the event of war between the two nations...

the difficulties of intercourse between this country and the United States would render it extremely hazardous, if not totally impracticable as we are now situated...

5th. To us it appears expedient, that the Societies here should become a church separate from the body in the United States, in order to secure privileges which are of importance for the prosperity of religion here.

These, brethren, are the reasons which have been presented to our minds, and which appear to us of weight and moment in favour of a separation...

This Memorial is signed by Wm. Case and 29 others. It was laid before the several annual conferences in the United States, and received the concurrence of a large majority of them.

The General Conference, after due examination of the subject, adopted the following preamble and resolution...

Resolved by the Delegates of the Annual Conferences in General conference assembled, that Whereas the jurisdiction of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States of America has heretofore been extended over the ministers and members in connexion with said church...

Resolved—That we adopt the present Discipline of the Methodist Episc. Church as the basis of our Constitution and Discipline, except such alterations as may appear necessary from our local circumstances.

Resolved—That the twenty third article of our religion be expunged, and the following be inserted in its place:—'We believe it to be the duty of all christians to be subject to the powers that be:—for we are commanded by the oracles of God to respect and obey the Civil Government: we should therefore not only fear God, but honour the King.'

As the 3d Section of the book of Discipline of the American Methodist Church provides that alterations in the rules of the Church cannot take place except by the Delegates of the Annual Conference assembled, it will appear obvious to the Committee...

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ion with the American Conference been dissolved.

Since October, 1828, no kind of ecclesiastical connexion has existed between the Methodist Conference in Upper Canada and that in the United States...

In respect to the Methodist Conference in Canada receiving support from foreign sources, I beg to observe, that our Methodist Itinerant Ministers receive the whole of their support from the voluntary contributions of the Societies among whom they labor.

The Philadelphia Female Missionary Society has presented for two or three years past a donation of £100 to the Methodist Missionary Society in Canada. The Committee in New York of the Methodist Missionary Society (one article of the constitution of which is to appropriate its funds wherever they are likely to do the most good...

All monies received by the Methodist Missionary Society are duly acknowledged in the published annual reports of that Society, together with the applications of them.

A sum has been annually received by the Methodist Conference in Canada, from a general book concern in the city of New York, the circumstances of which I beg to explain to the Honourable Committee.

Similar arrangements were made to adjust all the other affairs of the concern. The General Conference resolved, at the same time, that 'until there shall be an adjustment of any claims which the Canada Church may have on this connexion, the Book Agents shall divide to the said Canada Church an equal proportion of any annual dividend which may be made from the Book concern to the several annual conferences respectively.'

There are two circumstances more which have been represented as indicating a 'foreign influence,' that I beg leave to notice: the one relates to the election of a General Superintendent, and the other to ordinations having been performed by a Bishop of the Methodist Church in the United States.

As to the former, the Methodist Conference in 1828, on its determining on a separation, unanimously elected a gentleman for that responsible office, whose gifts, acquisitions, and graces preeminently qualified him for its duties...

Since that time the attention of the Members of the Methodist Conference has been drawn to several gentlemen both in Great Britain and the United States, as

suitably qualified to fill the office of a General Superintendent, but to none in either country, to the best of my knowledge, except British born subjects.

In respect to an American Bishop's ordaining Preachers in Canada, since their separation from the United States Conference, one of the honorable Committee was present on the occasion, and doubtless recollects all the circumstances of the case. I may however observe, that at the time of the separation, it was expected that a general Superintendent would be obtained—but failing to succeed in the accomplishment of this desirable object, no ordinations were performed for any preachers in Canada for the space of two years, and at the Conference in August last in Kingston, they were still left either to continue without ordination, or to infringe upon the established order of our prudential regulations...

I may also add, that an American Bishop, ordaining our Ministers in Canada, is not considered, in England, in the light of their being under the control of a foreign jurisdiction.

I would likewise remark, that there is at this moment, the most friendly feeling existing between the Canada and the English connexion; that there is frequent friendly correspondence between Ministers of both connexions; that no less than five English Local Preachers have joined the Canada connexion during the last year, immediately on their arrival in this country; joined in the same standing which they had in the English connexion...

In regard to circulating books, which may be considered as having a 'Republican' tendency, I am not acquainted with any instances of the kind.

The books and publications at the depository of the establishment placed under my care, are I believe entirely the productions of European writers. I have several kinds of Bibles which have been obtained from the British and Foreign Bible Society...

Should the Honourable Committee think it necessary to request any other information that I am able to give, I shall at all times be at their service.

EGERTON RYERSON.

York, February 9th, 1831.