

**File 108                      February 13, 1839**  
**Petition for the removal of Mr. Bourne, based on misinformation, which was  
circulated by Griffith and signed by the militia hence the subsequent  
removal of names.**

To the Lord Bishop of Montreal

The Petition of the undersigned Episcopal  
Protestants Resident in the Township of  
Rawdon Humbly Sheweth

That Petitioners labour under many  
severe disadvantages from the plan pursued  
by your Lordship and your Lordship's predecessor  
in appointing to the charge of this Congregation  
Persons who did not belong to the Protestant  
Episcopal Church of England, but whose  
interest as it particularly appears has  
been to sap the foundation of the Church  
and State, and who like those in the days  
of wicked Jeroboam, desired to be put into  
the Priest's Office in order to get a piece of  
Bread, have crept into our Most Holy  
Church which is (and ought to be) the Pillar  
and Ground of the truth, and the moment  
they find themselves established they commence  
to lop off the most fruitful Branches of  
this Beautiful Edifice to destroy it and they  
invariably endeavour to engraft sprigs of the  
wild olive, such as Baptists, anti-Baptists  
Calvinists of every description, Free thinkers, and  
every other that does not believe that there is  
a God, who rewards them that diligently  
seek him. We therefore pray your Lordship

to remove the Rev.d Mr. Bourne as it is not  
our wish to expose the conduct of this Rev'd  
Gentleman, we beg of you as the Shepard [sic] and  
Bishop of this fold, that you will without  
delay remove him and send some Old Country  
Clergyman to replace him who will rightly  
divide the word of Life unto us and who will  
not promulgate the wild Idea that the Union  
of Church and State is unholy, with many  
other such doctrines for which your Lordship's  
Petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray

Rawdon February 13, 1839

xxx = name stroked out  
X = not in own hand

Martin Hobs  
Wm. Scales  
William Tighe  
Hugh Torney  
Abraham Watters  
Michael Rourke  
Andrew Thompson  
Humphrey Bowen X  
William Rourke  
Thos. Mitchell<sup>1</sup>  
Joseph Mitchell  
William Griffith  
William Norrish  
Henry Smith  
Henry Dawson  
William Houston Kildare

John Smiley  
Jacob Manchester  
Samuel Smiley  
David Manchester

Mich'l Watters  
John Houston Kildare  
Gordon Houston Kildare  
Charles Houston Sen'r Kildare  
Charles Houston Jun'r Kildare  
John Smiley Junior  
James D. Norrish  
John Rourke  
Thomas Griffith  
William Robinson  
John McCaulley  
Thomas Robinson  
Alexander Connolly  
James Connolly  
Andrew Kerr  
George Kerr  
Robert Kerr  
William St. Clair  
Robert Rogers  
Francis Morgan  
John McCaulley  
William Irwin

to the boys thereunder  
there [sic] signatures were made unknown  
to themselves.<sup>2</sup>

Richard Torney

Thomas Torney

John McCurdy

Brian [sic] McCurdy

Andrew Dowler

Edward Tighe

Church Wardens

William Holtby

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<sup>1</sup> marked "private" in the margin preceding his name which indicates his militia rank

<sup>2</sup> The side remark refers to the sons Andrew Kerr. Robert, was perhaps 9 years old and George was about 13, both too young for the Militia