

The Monthly Record.

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"THE PRETENSIONS EXPOSED OF MESSRS. LANG, BURNETT & CO., &c., BY REV. R. CAMPBELL, MONTREAL."

A pretentious pamphlet under the above caption has been handed to us. We have read and noted its contents. With all due deference to the author, whom for many good qualities we respect, we think the pamphlet uncharitable, and uncalled for, and bearing on its face contradictions and absurdities. Its aim is wrong, its logic defective, and its tone and spirit far from kind or christian. The author of the pamphlet, no less a personage than the minister of St. Gabriel Church, Montreal, was once a minister in connection with the Church of Scotland. He was justifiably proud of that connection for a time, but he took council with her foes, they flattered him, they enticed him, and deceiving him into a belief that they loved his mother Church, they craftily took him & Co., into their fellowship, allowing them for their amusement to fancy that they were still in the old connection—and now that they have chosen new associates, ecclesiastical polity, confession of Faith &c., they must forsooth turn in the spirit of persecution upon those who, in obedience to the solemn vows they had taken, remained in immediate connection with the Church of Scotland. Mr. Campbell knows as well as Messrs. Lang, Burnett, & Co., that a large majority of the Church with which he connected himself would rejoice to see the Church of Scotland disendowed, disestablished, destroyed to-morrow, and are in deep sympathy with those, who in Scotland, are seeking her downfall. Yet he claims after having shifted his foundation, to be in connection with the Church of Scotland, and strenuously denies that claim to those who amid mingled persuasion, intimidation, &c., remained faithful to their solemn obligations that they would pursue no *divisive* courses. If the majority of

the Synod saw fit, like a broken ledge of a rock, to slide away from their original foundation, we hold that they had no right or power to turn to the rock and say to it that it should follow them. The minority could not be charged with any wrong doing towards the majority for refusing to surrender their liberty and consciences to them. Their crime is that they love the church of Scotland too well to be persuaded to disavow immediate connection with her; and they must in consequence suffer persecution, spoliation, misrepresentation, &c., from Messrs. Campbell and Co. When will "man's inhumanity to man" cease? When shall Christian churches cease from pagan barbarities, and give the world some practical lessons in the "charity that suffereth long, is kind, and envieth not?"

What element of possible danger can there be in the continued existence of a minority of Synod in connection with the Church of Scotland in the Upper Provinces? Have they shown any symptoms of disloyalty to the State? We trow not. Have they shown any tendency to tamper with, or mutilate the standards of the church whose name they bear, and under whose banner they chose to remain? No such charge has been brought against them. Why then, as they may be a power, however feeble, in the land for good to those who are like-minded with them, do Messrs. Campbell & Co. seek to crush them out by thwarting their honest and constitutional efforts for a recognized existence in the land? We close our criticism in the language of the editor of the "Golden Rule," and which we earnestly recommend to the careful perusal of all our readers: "I close, therefore, with the proposition that any interpretation of the teachings of Jesus—any application of his doctrines—any view of God—which makes a man narrow, bigoted, and intolerant; any view of duty which makes him harsh, unlovely and cruel; any conception of eternity which makes him a coward and a hypocrite is *proven by its effect to be erroneous*. Such teachings, I care not in whatever pious form couched, with whatever personal sincerity uttered, or by whatever religious sanction sustained, embody the essence of all heresy."