

Joy of Vindication

brethren; but, for a time, it was not so. Mr. Evans' sturdy English nature was aroused at this. Some of his truest friends had been grieved at the indifference with which he had treated the foul charges preferred against him. Conscious that they were only the emanations of his enemies, he had treated them with almost silent contempt. Now, however, when he found that even those from whom he had expected sympathy and support, were turning against him, he at once demanded the fullest investigation that could be made.

Friends rallied round him, and saw that he had fair play. Long and exhaustive was the investigation, but it ended in the most triumphant vindication of Mr. Evans. Every opportunity was offered to his enemies to prove their charges. Every one, however, most signally failed; and not only that, but the foul conspiracy to blast his character and injure his usefulness, was clearly exposed. The Jesuitical methods of the immoral governor to influence different classes against this godly man, were fully brought to light. The mean and contemptible attitude assumed by one, who, knowing his innocence, had become a traitor and a traducer, was also made clear.

The unearthing and publication of the foul conspiracy, and the story of what Mr. Evans had so long suffered from such implacable enemies, evoked a great wave of sympathy for the innocent and long-suffering man. Loving letters poured in upon him, and more tangible evidences