

to its height, and it was extensively published throughout the Provinces, and tended to calm the public mind. It appeared afterwards, however, that this document was only "a delusion and a snare." Sir John Colborne was *then* in communication with the Colonial Secretary as to the best mode of establishing the Rectories; and the Despatch appeared only as "a Decoy-Duck," the more cleverly to ensnare the people. This would not have been believed had not A SECRET DESPATCH—written only five months afterwards, (6th April, 1833,) from the same Secretary to the same Governor, which accidentally came to light, opened the eyes of the Colonists to the deep and desperate treachery both of the Colonial Office and of the Provincial Government. The following document exhibits a measure of official perfidy, when compared with the other, which we can find no language adequate to condemn.

Extract from the Secret Despatch.

Lord Goderich therein writes to Sir John Colborne thus:—

"I have considered with great attention the observations contained in your private letter, of February 16th, and the propositions which result from them. * * I quite concur with you in thinking that the greatest benefits to THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND could be derived from applying a portion, at least, of the funds under the controul of the Executive Government IN THE BUILDING OF RECTORIES AND CHURCHES: and, I could add, in preparing, as far as may be, for profitable occupation, that moderate portion of land which you propose to assign in each Township or Parish for increasing the future comfort if not THE COMPLETE MAINTENANCE OF THE RECTORS!!! With this view, it appears to me that it would be most desirable to make a beginning in this salutary work, by assigning a portion of the fund for the payment of salaries (generally)—I say, a portion of this sum because I am led to think, that it would be expedient with a view to prevent jealousy, and attempts at interfering with the territorial fund. * * some of it might, for instance, be applied to Churches for the Presbyterians, some for Roman Catholic chapels, and some for the Methodists—particularly that portion of them who may be in connection with the Wesleyan Methodists of this country. * * I am well aware that in the execution of this duty, you will have to steer a difficult course, and that IT WILL REQUIRE NO SMALL TACT to determine by what practical means these important objects can be best obtained."

We can find no transaction bearing so exact an analogy to this foul plot against the religious liberties of the Province as the swindling of an honest countryman by two city sharpers. Under the highest professions of friendship and honor they fleece him and escape. Sir John and Lord Goderich may be classed in the same category, for they have swindled the Canadian people of their most valued rights, and, as yet, have escaped. Let us compare the language of the two Despatches from the latter to the former.

In November, 1832—He says,

In the PUBLIC Despatch,

The charge of shewing undue preference to the clergy of the Established Church of England in Canada is so scandalously untrue, that I cannot pause formally to repel that charge.

But in his SECRET Despatch

In April 1833—He says:—

I quite concur with you as to the building of the Rectories for the exclusive benefit of the clergy of the Established church of England: