

thence, any additional number of Clergymen, of respectable abilities and character, that might be necessary. Now, though it would be both prudent and just, to place the native Canadian on the same footing with these, and although this is a measure, which I am satisfied the Scotch Clergy in Canada are most anxious to bring about, and which I am assured they have every prospect of accomplishing, still it can scarcely be supposed, but that a fair competition would leave a large opening for native Britons to establish themselves in the respectable and influential character of popular Clergymen. These are the men who, perhaps, of all others, have most power to promote that community of habits, feelings and affections, which bind us to the parent country, by the strong ties of mutual sympathy and esteem; and that Church which promises to establish, throughout the colony, the largest proportion of such men, is in a particular manner deserving the protection of government.

I have now, in the third place, to consider which of the two systems is most congenial to the state of society that exists in Canada, and therefore least requires the aid of adventitious power for its support. For, I assume it as a principle that, as our connection with the mother country arises not from any compulsory circumstance, but from the reciprocal benefits that flow from that connection, force does not form any of the bonds of our political union, and must always, when introduced, have a tendency to lessen the stability of that union, and can therefore never, with safety, be brought extensively into action, nor ought ever to be employed but in cases of the most urgent necessity.

I am persuaded that the Church of England is not naturally adapted to prevail in Canada, and that it can only obtain an extensive footing among us through compulsion; whereas that of Scotland is suited to our desires and wants, and requires but little encouragement to spread wide throughout the Colony, and to take firm root among the population of British descent in Canada. To establish the former part of this conclusion, it is not necessary for me to enter into any discussion concerning the suitableness of the present state of that Church, to the people of England. Even admitting that she suits the state of that country, it follows not thence that she is adapted to the order of things in this.

We have seen that there are many circumstances in the nature of things which tend to cement the union of Great Britain and Canada, and the operation of which, if we seek not to establish it on less secure grounds, must long, very long preserve that union entire. But it cannot be denied, that there are others, and founded in an equally immutable basis, that tend to separate the character of the people of the two countries, and which render institutions and establishments that may be suited to the people of the one, totally at variance with the habits and feelings of those of the other. We shall be satisfied of this truth, if we attend to the different elements of which society is composed in the one country and the other.