

magnitude and extent of the dangers which, at this crisis, threaten our Church, and the immediate necessity for promptitude, energy, union, and perseverance, in order to vindicate and secure permanently our rights.

We should be blind indeed, if we did not perceive to what point all this is tending. The establishment of the Rectories is only one of many proofs, that there is a disposition, it would almost seem, a determination, to exalt the Church of England, and, if not to depress, at least to neglect ours. But we will unhesitatingly proclaim our conviction, that so long as this partial influence is suffered to prevail, as it has heretofore done, in the Councils of the Colonial Government, there can be no hope of retaining the confidence and affection of the Scottish population, and we fear the Government will find it, in the end, a bad exchange, to have bartered, especially at the present crisis, the honest attachment of a whole mass of loyal and faithful-hearted subjects, for the interested and mercenary devotion of a few aspiring priests, or ambitious courtiers.

This crisis is one which needs every nerve of loyalty and patriotism to be braced to the uttermost. This, at least, is not the time to damp the ardour, or to shake the confidence and attachment of the well-affected.

Countrymen and Brethren, it is against this pernicious, this pestilent system, that we are now summoned to array our united strength, to arouse and put forth all our collective energy. The cause for which we are this day constrained to lift up our voice on high, to lift it up as a trumpet, is one which involves our national honour, our national birthright, our civil and religious rights and privileges, as members of one of the British Protestant Churches and Kingdoms. It involves rights, interests, and advantages in this land of our adoption, which it would be foolish and wicked, as it would be mean and pusillanimous, to relinquish, or to suffer to be infringed or wrested from us. It involves rights and interests, dear, precious, and invaluable to us, to our children, to posterity, and at the same time, as we deem, inseparably connected with the peace, prosperity, and welfare of the whole community, of which we form a part, neither inconsiderable nor obscure.

In vindication and defence of these rights and privileges, national and religious, you are now summoned to step forth, and to say, whether you are willing to have them taken from you and your fellow countrymen in British North America, and if not, we call upon you to unite as one man, and without delay, to submit, with one heart, with one voice, to your Sovereign and the British Parliament, your just complaint and solemn remonstrance, lamenting that these rights should have been attempted to be invaded or infringed by any party, and bewailing the necessity, which compels you to resort to such an extreme course, as the present, in order to obtain redress at the hands of rulers, whose duty it was to have watched over them, and to have guarded them from all violation.

It is also necessary, at this crisis, in consequence of the elaborate and audacious misrepresentations of those who are adverse to your claims, that you make known, as far as possible, not only your sentiments, but also your number and your strength; that you are not the insignificant fraction of the Colonial population, which your adversaries would represent you; that when your number is considered, in connection with your general intelligence, wealth, and respectability, you yield to no other British race or Protestant sect in weight or importance; that you are not indifferent or lukewarm with respect to the rights and privileges of your Church and country, which are at this moment perilled, but are determined to vindicate, to hold fast, to guard as the apple of your eye, what your fathers bled and died to purchase for you, and what the Constitution of Britain secures, as your inalienable inheritance and patrimony, in every part of her great Empire.

Let every man, who bears in his bosom a Scottish heart, press forward in order to give his name and his sanction to the memorials and petitions, which may be framed and circulated at this conjuncture, by properly authorized persons, for the purpose of conveying to the foot of the British Throne, through our enlightened and liberal-minded Governor General, the complaints and remonstrances of Her Majesty's loyal and affectionate, but much aggrieved, Scottish subjects in these Colonies. Let every Settlement, Township, and Congregation, let every locality, where there is any considerable number of our countrymen or members of our Church, organize themselves into a Society, and appoint forthwith a standing Committee of their number to correspond and co-operate with us, and let it be our unanimous resolution to maintain this union, throughout the whole of British North America, until we shall have consummated the good work, and redeemed our Church and our people in these Colonies, from their present humiliating situation—finally—effectually, and **FOR EVER**.

JAMES FLEMING, *Chairman*.

D. CHISHOLME, *Secretary*.