

who go to their place of rest, will have to eat their scanty morsel in bitterness and sorrow, and the extension of the Church in the new and remote settlements will be sadly retarded. In the meantime many of our members will fall away to Romanism or dissent, and their blood will be on the heads of those who favour this fatal measure.

Should the Roman Catholics take warning, from the certainty that their endowments are much less secure than ours, the evil day may be postponed, but not long, for they have been so much flattered by the Socialists that they would scarcely credit what your Grace and Mr. Peel have said on the subject. It is more probable that they will trust in their numbers and their power to surmount all resistance, and in the hope of profit by confiscation. No sooner will this be accomplished, than the agitation against Roman Catholic endowments will commence, for of this the Socialists make no secret, and as the dissenting and radical population increase far more rapidly than the French, their destruction is certain.

All this, however, will not be accomplished without violent contention, and, perhaps, a civil war; for the Roman Catholics will fight for their endowments, and although they will be overpowered by numbers, having no longer the Churches of England and Scotland to assist them, the victory will be dearly purchased and bring indelible disgrace upon those who might by a wiser policy have prevented all this misery, and blessed the province with a long continuance of peace and happiness.

Canada presents an overpowering argument in favour of religious endowments, for, with the small assistance derived from the benevolence of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, she has been able to extend the ministrations of the Church through a region nearly as large as Europe. Indeed a very small measure of assistance, if wisely managed, becomes a fruitful ground upon which to rest; it removes despondency, and convinces neighbourhoods that they may succeed in forming parishes, and enjoying regular service, if they will but exert themselves; and this exertion they are induced to make, and though many trials and difficulties intervene, they commonly succeed. Thus with the small sum of about 12,000*l.* per annum (our present income), nearly 160 clergymen are sustained, and as none have fewer than three places of worship to attend, and some have more, we have 500 missionary stations at least kept up, where the Church ministrations are held. In some places 40*l.* or 50*l.* paid from the fund will be a sufficient encouragement to commence, and in no case is more than 100*l.* given. By degrees, the congregations do more, and at length give up this small aid, to be transferred to a new settlement. Something like this process goes on in all our colonies, and has been going on under my eye in the diocese of Toronto, for more than 50 years.

Your Bill, my Lord Duke, will, if it pass, more or less darken every one of these 500 places of worship, and may, for a time, reduce many of them to silence. What then shall we say to those who have the power, and will not exert it, in promoting God's own work, and preventing consequences so baneful?

The experiment of leaving religion without any steady support has been tried in America, and the result, as one of their writers remarks, is, that of 25 millions of inhabitants, nine millions are totally destitute of religion; and notwithstanding the praiseworthy exertions of the members of our sister Church in that great republic, they count only one million out of 25 millions, or one out of twenty-five. Of the whole population of these, the state of New York, owing to an endowment of considerable magnitude, the gift of a British King, numbers about one fourth of the laity and clergy of the whole union. Hence endowments are essential to the extension of the Church. They are a stay and safeguard; and a helpless and headlong degeneracy will ensue from their confiscation.

It is not easy to conceive any provision for the support of religion, so little liable to exception as an appropriation of waste lands in a new colony. It puts no one to any inconvenience or expense, whether he chooses to profit by it or not. It is an appropriation becoming a Christian nation, and necessary to the well-being of the whole community. All who came into Canada knew that the