

do I think that, as a people, we are responsible even for the baseness of the attempt to fix it upon us ; my persuasion is that the wickedness it involves is limited to a miserable minority of our population. So far, the agitation upon the Clergy Reserves' question, whatever may have been the surreptitious dealings with it in rural places—has not extended beyond the city of Toronto ; and there no man will affirm that the advocates of the movement embrace any important share of the numbers, influence, or respectability of the population. There are against that movement the Church of England and her adherents, alone nearly one half the population of the city, the Roman Catholics, the Kirk of Scotland, and a large proportion of the Methodists. Contemplating these, and probably not a few of the other sects, as the opponents of that agitation, will any say that it speaks the voice of the citizens of Toronto ? I will venture, Sir, to affirm that the proportion of the advocates of this proceeding, in the other towns and villages of the Province, and in the rural districts especially, will be even smaller.

The country must feel the present position of the Clergy Reserves' property, as far as the Church of England is concerned, to be a grievance—one that is palpable, positive, and felt—before they will participate in the injustice which this agitation intends. They must argue strangely and inconsistently, if they can believe it to be a grievance.

You, Sir, as well as myself, know the feelings of the country upon practical religious questions as accurately as any of those who are so prominent in discussing them. We know that there is throughout the Province generally, in parts comparatively wealthy and filled with people, as well as in those remotely situated and thinly settled, an anxious desire for the