

a single fact in the whole history of the Church can be adduced out of harmony with our arrangement of the different religious systems, or the law which error obeys in doing homage to truth, while any number can be advanced to confirm them both. We may mention a few :

Pelagius and Celestius both at first attempted to represent their views as in substantial harmony with those of the Catholic Church. We have, in our own days, seen their followers creep into Presbyterian Churches, by signing the Westminster Confession of Faith, and then preach the Pelagian doctrine, until the counterfeit was discovered, and they were expelled for their errors.

The Reformed Churches on the Continent of Europe have all, at different periods of their history, been infested with teachers who, assuming outwardly the garb of Calvinism, have exerted all their energies to subvert the system of the Genevan Reformer which they were pledged to support.

The Established Church of England, with her Calvinistic Articles, has now a large, although we are glad to believe a decreasing body of Arminian Clergy, who circulate their counterfeit theology as the teaching of the Homilies and Articles of that Church.

In the days of Moderatism a similar state of things obtained in the Church of Scotland. The doctrines of the Bible were well nigh banished out of the Presbyterian Churches of England and Ireland by Arian teachers, who had entered them solemnly bound to defend the teachings of the Westminster Confession and Catechisms.

But while numberless instances can be cited in which parties holding some of the more erroneous creeds have assumed the garb of Calvinism, we believe there cannot be produced a well authenticated instance, since the world began, of a Calvinist who counterfeited the views of any of the lower grades of religion, and sought to palm himself upon any of their Churches as an Arminian, Pelagian, or Unitarian. This is a fact of history, explain it as you may ; and one which we apprehend is worthy of much more attention than it has yet received. To us the explanation is very simple. The law which tells why men do not counterfeit a broken-down bank, or change a fifty-dollar bill into a five-dollar bill, explains why a man who holds the doctrines of grace in his heart never voluntarily pretends to be an Arminian, Pelagian, Unitarian or Deist. It would be to disguise gold, that it might pass as base metal.

If our readers have followed us through these remarks, which we shall farther prolong, we think they will agree with us, that although a good man may not gain riches by counterfeit money, a thinking man may very properly extract from it some lessons of wisdom. †

AN EDUCATED MINISTRY.

Extract

Canada needs a *well educated* and a *well supported* Ministry. These requirements, which cannot practically be disjoined without gross injustice, deserve more attention than they now receive. We were happy to notice that the Rev. Dr. Burns treated ably of the first of these—the need of a lettered Christian Ministry—in his Lecture at the opening of the present session of Knox's College, Toronto. THE CANADIAN PRESBYTER will give attention to whatever bears on the efficiency of the Christian Ministry. Meantime, in lieu of any remarks of our own, we extract the following succinct statement, in support of the position that the Ministry should be educated as well as pious, from a Report submitted to the last General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States : (Old School.)