

relinquishing some sort of official connection with the State, successfully asserted its independence, thus facilitating the movement towards further Church Union in Scotland. In England, the Archbishops' Committee on Church and State has issued an important report embodying a scheme for attaining spiritual independence without sacrificing the principle of Establishment.

Nor is it Established Churches only that are affected by the unrest. The case of the United Free Church of Scotland showed the insecurity of all Free Churches under the existing arrangements whereby they hold their property. The Presbyterian Church of England for instance, in 1908, found it necessary to affirm its spiritual independence, claiming for itself "the sole and exclusive right from time to time to interpret, alter, add to, or modify its constitution, law, subordinate standards, and formulas, as duty may require; to determine and declare what these are; and for the better furtherance of the Kingdom of God to unite with other branches of the Church of Christ; always in conformity with those safeguards against hasty action or legislation which are provided by the Church itself,—of which conformity the Church acting through its legitimate courts shall be the sole judge, and under a sense of direct responsibility to the everliving Head of the Church, and of duty towards all the Church's members." This declaration was a counterblast to the scandal of the Halsbury judgment, but what

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