

not a king, nor a lord, nor a head, but a member. We will yield to your place and give you all due obedience, but again I say you are not the head of the church. You cannot give us that eternal life which we seek for, nor deprive us of it. Permit us then freely to meet in the name of Christ, and attend to the interests of that church of which you are a chief member." This is plain speaking yet King James could pardon it when he saw the intense earnestness of the man, and knew him to be a loyal subject who would have shed his blood for the honour or the person of the King. Those who then fought

#### THE BATTLE OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

had too much the fear of God before their eyes to fear the face of man. They stood for Truth and for Life in days when the battle went sore against both. God called them to this work and strengthened them to do it. Thus, you see, my friends, you come of a religious race. Your forefathers fought for liberty, and truth, and God. They triumphed, and to you they have bequeathed a precious blood-bought legacy. Will you despise it? Will you sell your birth-right for a mess of pottage? Will you change your religion as the chameleon does its colour to suit its surroundings? God forbid! Therefore, I ask you to transfer that devotion to God's word and to conscience which characterized your fathers in your native land, to Canada, the land of your adoption. Strive to implant in your children the same love of liberty and of truth. Teach them the "truth as it is in Jesus." Let your frequent exhortation be, "My son, know thou the God of thy fathers." Yes, we admire the piety of our forefathers; if so, let us emulate it; let us, like them, seek to become mighty in the Scriptures; mighty in prayer; mighty in our denunciation of wrong. We know it is common for some to smile at the tenacity with which Scotchmen cling to their religious convictions. But we glory in it. Give us sooner a man of strong religious convictions, a man who is willing to suffer, yea, to die rather than dishonour his God by a sinful compliance with evil doings. Give us a thousand times sooner a man whose whole nature revolts at the very thought of sin—exclaiming, "how can I do this great wickedness and sin against God," rather than one of those easy-going so-called liberal souls [liberal with God's Truth which is not their own,] who will give up one doctrine, and another, believing a little in everything and not much in anything. Oh no! What is the charge in the text? Keep and seek for *all* the commandments of the Lord your God." Some may mistake your zeal for bigotry, or your piety for fanaticism. but, He that judgeth you is the Lord." Cling then to your religious convictions if they be in harmony with God's word, and with you there will be the noble army of martyrs and some of the

#### GRANDEST NAMES IN HISTORY.

Luther, Calvin and our own Knox and Melville were men of intense zeal for God; Cromwell and Milton and John Bunyan were men of strong religious convictions; so were the Huguenots and the Pilgrim Fathers. What shall we say of Paul, of Peter and of John?

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