

external forms being merely accessories—to adapt them to the fluctuating condition of society—may grow old, fall into decay, and be swept from the face of the earth. But they are so intimately blended with divine truth, which can never die, that out of their dissolutions will spring up new forms of life and beauty. They possess a self-renewing power, which will preserve their essential qualities amidst all the changes that are passing around them. Oppression, injustice, spoliation, may jar the machinery and even put a temporary stop to its action, but “the word of the Lord endureth for ever,” and the renewing power of that word, we are assured, shall not cease so long as the sun and the moon shall endure.

But with these causes for trust, we have much to alarm us for the security and stability of the ecclesiastical establishment of the Kingdom. The unprincipled struggles for political place and power now going forward, threaten their overthrow. The childish apeings of the heartless worship of an unscriptural faith, eating the very vitals of true Godliness, warn us that we are on the eve of troublous times, and that in divine providence a storm is preparing to burst forth, for the purification of the church, and removal from it of the indifference, the cant, and pretensions that have so long deformed it, and impaired its usefulness. That the inestimable blessings which we have so long enjoyed may be transmitted unimpaired and uncorrupted to posterity, we must look to God, and depending on his blessing in the faithful application of the means of grace, we must earnestly seek to have the institutions of the Dominion thoroughly incorporated with the principles of a living practical Christianity. Alas! alas! when recently a traitorous Legislature, publicly divorced religion from the institutions of the land, political demagogues and envious sectaries shouted for joy, that the constitution of Church and State was utterly demolished; a shout re-echoed from the recreant throats of a few renegade Scotchmen, who, let us hope, “neither understood what they said, nor whereof they affirmed.” A more melancholy spectacle of political turpitude than a Government which does not publicly and specially acknowledge the sovereign power and authority of Jehovah, is not to be found among the tribes of men; nor is there a condition of society more deplorable than that left without any fixed standard of religious truth to battle its way, through surrounding mazes of ignorance and error, to a settled reliance on law or custom. What