

religious Newspaper, which is called "*The Church*:" these are altogether unequivocal and striking evidences of the attachment to Church principles which pervades a great body of the population.

I would here beg leave to draw the attention of your Excellency to the bearing of these facts upon the question of supporting the Clergy in Canada, by the voluntary contributions of the people. Here is a deep sense of the value of religious services, and a strong manifestation of attachment to the Church. The moving principle, therefore, is not wanting; and if, with this advantage, the system cannot work successfully in Canada, it may be inferred that it cannot succeed there at all. And I am more deeply convinced than ever that such is the fact. In the few examples in which the experiment has been tried, it has rarely been otherwise than a failure, and in most cases it would be hopeless to attempt it. Even if the country were far more advanced, and the people had some command of money, I am persuaded that a faithful, respectable, and independent body of Clergy, sufficient for the wants even of that part of the population who already appreciate their labours, much more of that whom it is their duty to win to a care for religion, can never be provided by the operation of the voluntary system.*

Your Excellency, I doubt not, is alive to the necessity of bringing at last to an issue the long-protracted questions respecting the Clergy reserves, and putting an end to the painful and mischievous agitations which must continue so long as those questions are left open. I shall not presume to argue here the right of the Church of England to the exclusive benefit of that property, but I should be wanting in my duty to the Church, if I did not state my conviction of the existence of that right; at the same time that I think it but fair, that the Clergy of the Church of Scotland should look for some reasonable assistance from other resources at the disposal of the Government. Against all idea of an equality of footing between the two Churches, I cannot do otherwise than earnestly and solemnly protest. If upon the manifestation of a spirit of rivalry in India, on the part of the Church of Scotland, instructions (of which a copy is in my possession) were sent to the Governor-general, declaring the impracticability of placing the two Churches upon a level, I conceive that the case is much stronger in favour of the Church of England in Canada. The royal instructions having declared that Church alone to possess the character of an Establishment in the Colony;—part of these same instructions having been cited in the Act 31,

* The Public should be aware that at the original Conquest of Canada, the