

party, and had at first such an effect on some as to drive them to think of Annexation ; but from this folly they were speedily reclaimed.

If, in addition to all this, the Church be deprived of her property, the last link of attachment to the parent State will be snapt asunder. We feel that we are under a small but reckless junta, who are less than nothing, were they not supported by Roman Catholic votes.

And we see no hope of return to that wise and salutary government which we have a right as British subjects to expect. We feel in truth as the people of England would do, were extreme radicals placed at the head of the Government.

Under such depressing circumstances the Conservatives had little heart to appear vigorously at the hustings, and yet, as we have already noticed, they defeated the three principal enemies of the Reserves, and thus secured their safety had there been no interference on the part of the Roman Catholics, who ought never to have voted on this question, since it is entirely Protestant.

At first they hesitated, and seemed rather inclined to assist in their preservation, but since the Papal Aggression, and Lord John Russell's attempt at a remedy, they are become more bold, and many of them do not conceal their expectation of obtaining a large accession to their endowment, by the secularisation or re-distribution of the Reserves, and some are no ways unwilling to adopt the policy of the Roman Catholics in Ireland.

Now all this is the more to be deplored, because there had been, from the first settlement of Upper Canada till the union of the two provinces in 1840, a courteous and uninterrupted interchange of civilities and social intercourse between the members of the Church of England and the Church of Rome. But since the unhappy union causes of irritation and estrangement have been gradually arising.

The Church of England feels, from the sad occurrences of almost every day, that she no longer possesses her just influence in the Legislature, but is thrown on all occasions where her interests are concerned into a hopeless minority. She finds, as was recorded in her protests against the union, that her ancient opponents the dissenters, who were seldom able to refuse her justice, now re-inforced, on all occasions, where she can be mortified and injured, by Roman Catholic votes.

By this unhallowed combination she lost her university ; and when she requested separate schools for the education of her own children, her prayer was rejected, while they secured the privilege for themselves. Thus within a few years, our holy Church has been deprived of the power of educating her children in her own way, and is now threatened with the loss of the remainder of her endowment. The Romanists, on the other hand, who have caused all these evils, are in the full and peaceable enjoyment of an endowment infinitely more valuable, and enjoying all the sweets of civil and religious liberty, while Ministers of State and Members of Parliament are talking in utter ignorance of our true position, or with chilly indifference if they do, about arranging our domestic affairs, and confiscating our small remainder of Church property though fenced on every side by the most sacred pledges.

It might with good reason have been expected that the Roman Catholics would have from delicacy if not from principle abstained from voting on matters in which our Church was specially interested, but they have not done so.

In this aspect of our affairs, which Lord Sydenham as well as the opponents of the union clearly foresaw and most strenuously sought to avert, what are we to do if the Clergy Reserve question be sent back for adjustment in the colony ? Hitherto we have in all our proceedings respected the Roman Catholic endowments. Indeed so long as our Church was sustained in her own property, devoted as it was to sacred purposes, she felt it her duty to respect that of the Church of Rome. While retaining her endowments, small as they are, the two churches could meet on something like equal terms ; but if through Roman votes and influence we are deprived of these advantages, is it still our duty to respect that of our spoilers ?

How very different would the religious aspect of Canada have been had the Roman Catholics done their duty. And it would have been their safety as well as ours had they, instead of joining the enemies of religion, made a common cause with the Churches of England and Scotland on the preservation of church