

property whatever, nor even admitted to her pulpits. Your Honors will perceive this to be strictly just and according to law: and for the Civil power to grant those who have forfeited all right to our property, a right thereto would be a deliberate trampling of justice under foot.

The injustice of such an Act will be further evident to you from the following reasons:

Because the Presbyterian sects applying for it are alien to us—Catholics and Episcopalians have as much right as they have to apply for it.

Because those intending to leave us, and join them, by such act forfeit all claim to our property—it being granted only to *bona fide* ministers of the Church.

Because such an act would at any time despoil of their livings those high-principled defenders of the Kirk now nobly fighting her battles; and to which act of oppression they will never submit; for having right on their side they will undoubtedly lay claim, legally and rightfully, to all property of the Kirk as its lawful trustees and claimants, and carry their case to England for redress.

Because preachers are being educated in Scotland with the view of coming to Canada, and on the understanding of being settled in our Kirks here, and who have a legal right to be so inducted, which stranger preachers have not.

Because the whole property of our Kirk is the gift of her members or of the British Government. Of all the Churches and manses in the Upper and in the Maritime Provinces, nearly every one has been erected by funds raised for that purpose in Scotland, and they are secured to her by special Acts of Incorporation by the Local Legislatures, the words of the deeds being that "Divine worship shall be performed in said churches *in all time coming* only in connection with, and according to the faith, doctrines, worship, discipline, and government of the Established Church of Scotland." The Clergy Reserves were granted to her by the British Government in 1853, in recognition of her services in Canada and her status as an established Church. Queen's College, Kingston, was specially secured to her by an Imperial charter which no Act of your Parliament can annul. Other institutions, trusts, and funds for ministers, widows, orphans, and endowments were given and devised to her by the donors and legators on the distinct understanding of being applied solely for her behoof, and never alienated to another body. Here then are nearly 200 churches, manses, glebes, temporalities, funds and colleges, the title to all which is bound down *in the strongest possible terms* to the Kirk in Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland, and the revenues so secured that none but a *bona fide* minister of that Church can lay claim to them—here is property as inalienably and indisputably hers as any property in the Dominion is that of its rightful owner—established church property to which no Dissenter, Schismatic, or alien has any claim whatever; here are not only religious, but civil rights of the highest importance involved. The palpable and flagrant *injustice* of alienating any such property I need not point out to your Honors.

(VI.)—THE CLAIMS OF THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND HERSELF to your regard (apart from any other consideration) furnish the strongest motive for rejecting the Bill. Not to speak of her status as an Established Church recognised for centuries, and therefore entitled to your highest respect; not to speak of her renown as the great historical Church and bulwark of the Reformation, and therefore endeared to the hearts of

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