

amount. Neither Clergy nor people, nor their representatives, were convoked to enact the law, or even to express their opinion upon its justice or practicability; but his Lordship merely propounded his "Plan" to the Committee of the Church Society, (an entirely irresponsible body), who, *it is said*, "allowed and approved of it," and then, in his own name, issued his positive orders to his subordinates, the Clergy.

That this is no exaggerated statement, a few extracts from the Bishop's missive, will clearly demonstrate. Speaking of the "Plan," his Lordship wrote to each Missionary, "*I desire you to put it in operation, in your mission*;"—again, "*whatever your collections may be, all must be returned to me or the Treasurer of the Church Society*;"—again "*For this, that is, the machivery of the plan, 'the Church' (who or what is meant by this term?) 'looks to her Clergy, they must declare—they must carry it into operation.'*" Once more, after recommending the Clergy to associate the Churchwardens, and others with them, in making the collections, his Lordship said, "*but you will remember that we*" (who are to be understood under this phrase?) "*look to you, and require it of you as a sacred duty, to direct and superintend, and make the report and returns of the collections.*" The amount to be collected was, "*at the rate of five shillings a year, or one penny a week, per head, from each and every church member, old and young.*" Where did the Bishop derive his authority to impose this tax upon "*each and every Church member, old and young*"? Not from the Committee, who never dreamt of it, nor from Sir John Harvey, the then Patron of the Society, who, in his address, only proposed "*some trifling annual contribution to be paid by every adult member.*" Many would be glad to see any rule of the Society wherein this demand is sanctioned, and to have proof given that the Committee "*allowed and approved such a system.*"

The Laity, too, were rigorously directed to comply with the demand made upon them; "*neither their will or liberality was doubted*;" nor were they permitted to contribute in any other than the approved mode to their Ministers, for, said the Bishop, "*all other collections for, or payment to, the Clergyman, must, at the close of that year, altogether cease.*" That the contribution by the people was intended to be compulsorily exacted, is evident from the Bishop's circular of September, 1846, wherein his Lordship said, "*at the end of three years, the payments can hardly be considered voluntary.*" I mean, that, though the Church will be closed against none,