

people with utter lies and distortions against her,) for this letter is from a well known and trusty man who is on the ground and who writes from headquarters what he sees and knows. Our readers will no doubt read every word of his letter, and "mark, learn and inwardly digest it" with careful study. Then let them thank God and take courage in the Church's prosperity and serve Him more and more in her work.

EDINBURGH, DEC. 1885.

DEAR MR. EDITOR.—I wish to thank you most sincerely for THE MONTHLY RECORD. One takes to it kindly "for Auld lang Syne;" it comes fresh and brimming over with interest; and it brings with it names and references which are very dear to those of us who are now on this side of the sea, but who first breathed God's air mellowed by the fragrance of Canadian woods.

We are here still in the midst of our great General Election and do not yet know what the result may be. It is useless to conjecture and even did I indulge my fancy and happen to be correct, it would avail you nothing, for you would have facts and figures by telegraph long before this humble contribution to your pages would be to hand. I shall trouble neither your readers nor myself on the matter. It has been a stirring time however with us all. The church question was forced to the front by designing men of the Radical stamp, in the hope that the Church would say nothing; there being no real danger; and they would catch up votes from the dissatisfied grumbling godless hordes that swarm about our large cities and have votes now. But they found their mistake. The Church put on her armour and came into the field. She laid down her policy to know nothing of either political party. She said "give me the chance of appealing to the Scottish people, let my children say whether I am to be destroyed or not. If they say I am to die let me die." The result was the disestablishment movement died. The Church arose in her strength and church defence associations have been formed throughout the length and breadth of the land. Meetings were held on the subject and no truer champions of the Church were found than the ministers of the Orthodox portion of the Free Church.

The true disciples of the men of "43" came with us and did noble yeoman service. Those who adhere to the *Claim of Rights*, and their great *Protest*, the men who are of the Begg and Candlish and Kennedy School men like Mr. Balfour minister of Free Holyrood, Mr. McEwan of Free John Knox's, Dr. Moir Porteous of Free Cowgthead and many others were our best friends in the crisis. They travelled over the length and breadth of the country saying, "This is not merely a question of the Church of Scotland; this is a question of all who believe in National Religion; this is a question for every Man whether in the Church of Scotland or out of it, who hold that the Protestant constitution of Scotland shall remain unaltered. There are acts of our old Scottish Parliament against popery which we shall die rather than see repealed:—and all these must be repealed if Disestablishment comes. The Protestant Religion is on the statute book of Scotland and these men said, "it shall remain there. We fight this battle not because we are Kirk of Scotland men, for that we are not; but we fight it because we are Protestants, Presbyterians, and Patriots." And so the battle was fought, and before the elections began, the Leaders of the liberal party saw, that the demands of the church were reasonable and that the strength of the Scottish people was on her side! Churchmen voted for those who favoured the church and against those who were against her, irrespective of party. The LAITY of the dissenting churches are by no means favourable to the destruction of the old Church. It is true 1475 dissenting MINISTERS demanded disestablishment at the hands of the liberal party; but over 1600 ministers of the church might be got to demand that no such thing should take place. Disestablishers like Dr. Rainey, Dr. Calderwood and Dr. Hutton will never consent to allow this question to go before the people of Scotland for a "yes" or a "no" apart from all other questions; and they are all liberals, FORSOOTH. We on the other hand know that the Church is safe in the hands of the Scottish people and we say, "give us the chance to ask them."

But this is dead, and we solemnly chant our *Requiescat in pace*; and pass on to other matters. And the question which