

Free Press," was published at the commencement of this year. Eight thousand copies were circulated. These, with other addresses, were issued, as stated, simply to promote the cause of the Church of Scotland. The present one has the same object in view.

Of this Address—the substance of which has appeared in the above pamphlets—the first part was delivered to my former charge in P. E. Island, March 1st, 1874, with the view of preventing the threatened schism in the Church of Scotland there which was agitated by her opponents, and of encouraging our people to remain faithful to their National Zion. This strengthened our party, but increased the hostility of our opponents, who only became the more violent in their opposition to the Church I defended. A great persecution was kindled against her by the united efforts of the so-called *Unionists* or anti-Kirk party, and as I was the only minister in the Island who stood true to the Church of Scotland, I had to endure the whole brunt of it. I had the honour of holding up the standard of the Kirk when all her other ministers forsook her.* I and the small Kirk party stood alone in her defence against a multitude who, unfortunately, had been seduced from their allegiance to her. By the kindness of Almighty God we maintained our ground, the Kirk party increased in numbers, and, before leaving the Island to labour in Western Canada, I had the satisfaction of seeing the greater part of the Islanders return to their allegiance to their Mother Church.

The second part of the Address was given to my present charge of Bayfield and Varna, in Western Canada, and elsewhere, only at the close of last year, after the "Union" catastrophe had taken place, and the tyrannical

*. See Appendix, A.