

against her—*they* may hound on the revolutionist and republican against her sacred possessions, and yet *we* are to sit still—our hands behind us and our mouths shut!! No, let them call what I am doing political agitation if they will. If the cause and interests of religion have become implicated with the politics of the country, it is *their* fault, not ours; and we will not be deterred from our duty by any such shallow artifice.

It is *they*—the demagogues of a faction—who have dragged religion upon the platform of debasing political strife, and we must rescue her from the hands which would fain dismember her, and sacrifice her to their ungodly passions. We are driven to agitate in self-defence; in this we may take a lesson from our foes, and if we are to win, we must beat them with their own weapons. Agitate—yes, I do agitate—and I trust that my example will be followed by every man among you who knows his duty to his church, his country, and his God. I trust that man will speak to man, and neighbour will inform and teach his neighbour, till but one christian feeling, and but one christian determination shall pervade the whole length and breadth of the church—viz., that such a piece of injustice as the secularization of her Reserves shall *not* be perpetrated while, by any lawful means, it can be prevented.

To agitate in a righteous cause is an honour, not a reproach; it is a course, of which no man need be ashamed; I, for one, am not.

Are we told that it is our duty, as christians, to be submissive? We will be so, when there is no other christian alternative; when the evil shall have been done, *then* we shall deem it a duty to submit, rather than stir up strife and violence. But is it a christian duty to take no steps to meet and avert a vast approaching misfortune—to take no precautions against the gathering cloud—to seek no arms when foes are marshalling their strength against us, with every demonstration of evil intentions? No! This were base cowardice—a contemptible lethargy, arguing utter ignorance of our duty, or indifference to the sacred interests entrusted to us. I repeat, let us seize every legal method which the constitution of our country places within our reach, for the preservation of our church endowments.

I have called the Reserves—“the *Church* Reserves;” and this, advisedly, and with a purpose. They are often designated the “*Clergy* Reserves;” and under this title people are