

also against *might*, for the *traitors* far outnumber the *true* men. You see in fact a moral struggle (sufficient to fire the heart of every Scot),—a small band of heroes, worthy of their country, true to her colours, fighting against desperate odds to deliver a bleeding and downtrodden Kirk from her betrayers and murderers. So, as told in immortal story, the small band of Highland Heroes, though surrounded by hosts of traitors, withstood all the assaults of the treacherous Sepoys at Lucknow and Cawnpore, as they brought deliverance to the perishing and the dying. You see the same spirit, the same national ardour in these defenders of our Kirk, true to her sacred rights and blood-bought honours, and combating in her defence against leagued oppression and treachery. You hear the same sound of the patriot's voice—the voice of her deliverer, the true slogan of the Highlanders, the march of the clans coming to her relief, rushing to rescue her out of the hands of cowardly traitors and assassins: and it is a sight sufficient to fire the breast of every patriot!

(V.)—THE INJUSTICE OF THE MEASURE.

An act to enable enemies to spoil her; traitors, after deserting her, to hold her property; and a rabble of a packed majority to vote her out of existence at pleasure, and give her possessions to another, is simply an edict of persecution against the Kirk that should be placed alongside some of the acts of the Jefferies and Charleses! The Church of Rome has her possessions in Canada secured, the Church of England may multiply her dioceses there unmolested, but the Church of Scotland alone, though placed by the Imperial Parliament on the same footing with the latter, dare not lift her honoured head, but she is in danger of being struck down by a Provincial Legislature in the seventh year of its age! Sad degradation for the ancient and honourable Church of Scotland! Pitiful persecution, will it not defeat its own end? Such an act places the Kirk under ban and proscription in a professedly free Province of the British Empire! The cruel *injustice* of it will be evident to you when you remember that the law is universally laid down, that those seceding from any body forfeit all right to its property, as instanced in the case of the seceding Free Church of Scotland in 1843, and all similar cases. Those intending to secede from us in 1875, and set up a new sect with a new name stated in the Bill before your House, must submit to the same law with their predecessors. Our *new* schismatics have no more right to carry off the Kirk's property than had the *old*. Surely they must see this, unless their moral sense (sadly blunted as to the distinctions of *meum* and *tuum*) has blinded them into the belief that they can belong both to their *new* sect and to the *Kirk*, and thus draw two livings *at once*! Let me inform them that such a thing cannot be; such double-dealing and plurality of professions is tolerated by no creed, Mahomedan or Mormon, much less Christian: no religionists on earth are permitted to act in this slipshod manner, to *belong to two bodies at once*. From the moment they join the new sect they cease to be ministers and members of the Kirk of Scotland. By their own foolish act they make as clear a separation from that Church, and will find themselves cut off from her communion, just as completely as though they had joined the said Mormons or Mahomedans. Their connexion with the orthodox and Christian Church of Scotland will then cease and determine, and at the first meeting of our Church Courts they will be declared *no longer ministers of the Church of Scotland, and degraded from her ministry*. By consequence they will not be eligible for any of her livings at home or abroad, nor entitled to draw or hold any of her