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generally. Had the Crown entered upon the enjoyment of its rights in these Seigniories, the landed proprietors, both French and English, would have united in obtaining some measure of relief. The schools and colleges established by the St. Sulpicians are essentially French; and it has sedulously been inculcated on the French inhabitants, that any endeavours to dispossess the Seminary of its Feudal rights, were directed, not so much against the St. Sulpicians, as against the language, laws, manners, and customs of the "Canadian Nation." Prejudices and feelings were thus excited among the most numerous class of the population, in favour of the Seminary, which would not have operated, if similar exactions had been demanded by the Crown, and the revenues employed for other and general purposes. Considering the vexatious and oppressive character of feudal exactions; that among other "rights and privileges," the Seigneur is entitled to claim from every purchaser of real property a fine equal to one twelfth part of the price, a claim which recurs with each successive sale, it cannot be supposed that the British Government would have desired to perpetuate such a system of taxation on the estates belonging to the Crown, if the inhabitants of all origins had joined in representing its evil effects.

The liberality—or what, perhaps, might be better termed the policy—of the Seminary, has delayed the final settlement of the question until the present period; and this delay, which has been occasioned by the culpable neglect of the Ministers of the Crown, is now urged as a principal reason for granting to the St. Sulpicians the legal right to continue their exactions. The question of right is rudely set aside, and if the Government measure is persisted in, many thousands of native born British subjects will be handed over like so many Russian serfs, to be dealt with according to the "rights and privileges," which existed before the 18th day of September, 1759; and this monstrous and iniquitous proceeding is alleged to be justified, because the wise and equitable Ministers of the Crown have, for the last eighty years, denied to the British inhabitants an act of justice, and because the St. Sulpicians have, during that period, been permitted by the Government, to exact, from the British inhabitants, a large revenue, contrary to law.

It might be supposed, that in sanctioning an act of such gross injustice to the landed proprietors, the Government was influenced by some weighty considerations of state policy; that it was essential to the general interests of the Province, that, in this instance, the rights of individuals should be disregarded and set at nought; and that the end aimed at, would confer a great and lasting benefit on all classes of Her Majesty's subjects within the Province.

A slight inquiry as to "the objects, intents and purposes" of the proposed grant will suffice to show that, on public grounds, it is wholly indefensible, and that, in its general bearing on the interests of society, it is as inexpedient and impolitic as it is unjust.

The "objects, intents and purposes" of the St. Sulpicians of Montreal, so far, at least, as the public are concerned, according to their constitution and privileges before the 18th day of September, 1759, are the education and instruction of certain Indian tribes. This was, doubtless, an object of much importance, when the St. Sulpicians were first established and endowed in the Colony; but the few remaining Indians having a claim on the Seminary, are educated and instructed at so trifling an expense, that