

*rest in one way or other* depends the country's peace and prosperity. The expression of that feeling is yet only muttered like the coming storm, but unless decisive steps are taken, it will before long burst forth in popular thunder. If the explanation have only the effect of making others see *the uselessness*, even if they cannot believe in the immediate danger of *blinking the subject of the Clergy Reserves*, he will feel that this little trouble has been amply recompensed. He is neither wedded to the system he now proposes nor to any other, and will only stick to his present views till a more equitable and *practicable system* is pointed out. May he not then expect an unprejudiced consideration of his plan. It is no party production. The writer's independence is, perhaps, as untrammelled by party influence, feelings, or interests, as that of any man in either Province. He cannot be held to write from irritated feelings arising from his belonging to a *neglected or insulted sect*; for he is a lay adherent of the Church of Scotland, a church which may have good reasons for *feeling* against individuals in this country, who have tried to deprive her of her *just rights under the constitutional act*; but cannot be supposed to have any undue longing for a state of *equal Religious privileges*, which it is the writer's object to bring about *until* she tamely sits down content, that her *lawful rights* be trampled on and in despair of redress from the British Government, to which even strangers do not call in vain for justice; but the supposition of all this, is not only unnatural but ridiculous, while the law of the land remains as it is, and while Scotland's sons retain one half of that freedom of opinion for which they *contended* more than a hundred years ago.

The writer has avoided personalities where he could do so, without injuring his position.—If in one of these last sentences the allusion to individuals is calculated to give offence, he would express a sorrow in which he will be joined by the whole province that *some* individuals are mingled up with *all* our public questions.—He may moreover explain, that however hard the feeling entertained in certain quarters is, there has been nothing, in his opinion, *attempted* by members of the church of England which by an exertion of charity may not be laid to the door of frail human nature; or which he cannot easily conceive might have been attempted by the individual ministers of his own church in *similar circumstances*.

He would be the last to cast any indignity or injurious reflections on the piety, the private charities, or the ministerial usefulness, of the Clergymen of the Church of England in this Province, and were any individual attempting such a thing, he hopes, and indeed believes, that they stand too high in the public opinion, and in the affections of their particular flocks, to be affected by him; but may he not hope too, that the day has gone by when *private or religious virtues could atone for political errors*.