

extend the Church has been frowned down; weakness has been produced, that this weakness might be used as an argument for dissolution, until the people, warmly attached to the Church of their fathers, were driven in dull despair to accept almost anything, that an end might be put to the unceasing annoyance of motions for Union, which were put forward as pretexts for abstaining from missionary work either at home or abroad. Some of our ablest young ministers have not hesitated to declare in conversation that whilst voting for Union they expected *neither comfort to themselves and congregations, nor increased strength for prosecuting the work of Christ.* They found, they said, a strong feeling of attachment throughout the country to our Church, and knew that if the work was not hindered by those who ought to encourage it, that it would grow and spread rapidly, but they found a mysterious and baleful influence at work which was thwarting their best endeavours. Congregations of our Church have been handed over to the other body; incapable men have been kept in charges, for whom aid has been drawn from the Colonial Committee of the Church of Scotland, in spite of repeated remonstrances, both by word and letter. The wonder, to those who knew the machinery at work to destroy our Church, was not that she did not advance more rapidly, but that she was able to advance at all, or even to keep the ground she had previously won.

Well might the newly constituted body unanimously appoint the Very Reverend Dr. Cook, of Quebec, to the post of Moderator. It is painful, inexpressibly painful, to discharge a duty which has been forced on us; but, in spite of the natural shrinking from the task, it is one which we are compelled to undertake. Dr. Cook, as a minister of our Church, has been regarded abroad as a tower of strength. But what has he ever done? Can any man lay his finger upon a solitary act of his intended to promote either home or foreign missionary work? Learned, eloquent, persuasive, when was he ever known to fail to take advantage of a large gathering at Synod to make an eloquent speech? There it ended.

Forty years a minister in Quebec, what has he to show for his lifetime? Six poor congregations in the whole Presbytery of Quebec, which includes nearly the entire extent of the Eastern Townships, certainly the wealthiest parts of that district, where, but for him, there would have been to-day from twenty to thirty flourishing congregations of our Church. The records of the Synod show the number of charges that exist; those that should have been are known to the men whose names are held in small account, but whose labours in the face of poverty and privation far outweigh all the glittering phrases by which the new Disruption has been brought about, and their hearts are sad over the memories of "what might have been."

Why Dr. Cook acted in this way towards the Church to which he professed to belong is matter of history. A non-intrusionist before the Disruption of 1843, to him more than to any man was due the Disruption here of