

only their own but the Protestant Church also. Ask the Presbyterians of the North, ask the Wesleyan Methodists of Ireland and they will tell you all about the Popish dodge, and that there is no truth in the statement. Romanists in Ireland are not obliged to pay the value of one farthing tax for the support of the Protestant ministry. They have nothing to pay unless they obtain the property of the Church, in which case they are reasonably expected to give a small compensation in return.

But supposing the Gladstone mob, when in power, did perpetrate the sacriligious act, who would be benefitted by the foul deed? Not the miserable rabble and paupers who are taught by their priests to whine and to howl about Protestant injustice! No, they would not receive the value of one penny by the dastardly act, their rent would at least be as high as at present; for it is well known that those lands in Ireland, where no tythes are paid, command a much higher rent from the tenant per acre than the rent and tythe taken together of the other lands. While on the other hand, the taxation of the Protestants in *poor sections* of the country would be increased, or else the rising generation among them would be obliged to grow up in heathenism, or what is far worse, Popery! The poor would be deprived of the blessing and privilege of having a learned and pious ministry, and the great lever of civilization would be removed from their midst forever. Gladstone's robbery *might not at present* do much injury to the rich, who could

afford to pay for religious services, but it would prove, a curse in the rural districts, where the people would be utterly unable by tax to support a religious establishment. The purely voluntary system for Church support has a thousand times over been proved a failure—witness the rural parts of the United States, where clergymen and their families are now, as they always have been, literally starving for want of the common necessities of life, living on a salary of \$300 or \$400 year, and hardly receiving the one-half of that amount, although promised by the congregation.

But what do Gladstone and his companions in crime care for God's poor so long as lighted candles do not adorn their communion table or the lack of other Tomfooleries in their churches gives him the sad evidence that the people desire to be united with Christ and not with Rome. Many of his nearest connections are papists, and he himself is a ritualist of the most hypocritical order. We notice that the *Halifax Evening Express*, a paper indirectly devoted to Popery, although patronised by foolish and ignorant heretics, has of late a great deal to say against the intolerance of the Old Church of the nation. Indeed, this Romish edition has just uttered his protest against Nova Scotia being annexed to the United States because Mormonism and Spiritualism, and other isms exist there, but unfortunately for that gentleman his own *ism*—Romanism—is the most degrading, is the worst of the whole of them, is the most foolish, wicked, and