

Church contradict these assertions in the most positive terms. Mr. Cochrane states distinctly that he has used every effort to raise the amount necessary to put the fund on a satisfactory footing; that he has not only published the appeal in the journals, and official record of the Church, so as to secure the utmost publicity, but that he has also appealed to all the ministers individually, urging them to wipe out the reproach of incurring liabilities which they had no means to meet. But the call has been unanswered; the returns have been most insignificant, the result will be the withdrawal of Christian influences from localities where such influences are most needed.

Do we rejoice in this failure; in this want of means to carry the Gospel to those who are perishing from lack of knowledge? Far from it. So far from indulging in congratulation on the truth of our predictions, we lament that such should be the result. But it does not surprise us. No blessing could attend the measure which were adopted to force into union those who were not drawn together by the spirit, love, and fellowship which alone could have justified such a step. As the Spirit of God does not hallow the marriage contracted from unholy motives and consecrated by no union of feeling, as nothing but wretchedness and mutual upbraidings can be expected, neither can anything but discord be looked for from those who have been forced together from political motives, into an unnatural alliance in the name of religion.

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There is a curious disinclination on the part of many in the present day to listen to the truth regarding any wrong doing, if the expressions are not smoothed down till they become almost meaningless. It is the age of rose water, and yet singularly enough this state of things co-exists with, and perhaps has been produced by, the most extravagant vituperation. So accustomed have men become to the abuse of partisans that the gravest charges of personal dishonour; the most serious attacks upon private character, are looked upon as only the outbursts of political enmity which may or may not be true, but which, whether true or false, are only to be held as barriers to a man's advancement when he thinks differently from ourselves. This has led to a feeling on the part of many, as we have said, to believe nothing which is charged against a public man if the charge is made with even the slightest appearance of indignation. No matter how clearly proved the charges may be, no matter how fitted they are to rouse in every honourable mind the just anger which such a course of conduct may well produce, strong words have been used, therefore the man who uses them must be wrong, and the man whose conduct he denounces, must be right.

In such a state of things, and with such a feeling in the community, what