

they exceed forty thousand persons, and even in the existence of that number we will not readily believe unless a census of the various counties be exhibited. Catholics are computed at one fifth, and this even by their friends, for it has long been the policy or the fashion to diminish their numbers and decry their influence. We are convinced that they are much nearer to one third than to one fifth of the entire population, because we estimate their round numbers in Nova Scotia and Cape Breton at something about ninety thousand. We certainly never heard them reckoned less than eighty five thousand. No religious denomination in the Province is at all so numerous. The same can be said of the United Kingdom; for in England, Ireland, and Scotland there are about eleven millions of Catholics, a number of which no other denomination can boast, and which, thank God, is increasing every day by the conversions of the most learned, seriously religious and respectable members of the various Protestant sects.

In placing before our readers the monopoly enjoyed by the Church of England, we are influenced by no motive of jealousy or ill will. We covet nothing exclusively for ourselves. We want nothing from which our fellow christians and fellow subjects are to be shut out. The Church of England ought to command our religious sympathies, for she is a child of Catholicity—erring, disobedient and ungrateful it is true, but still a child, and bearing some points of resemblance to the venerable parent whom in an evil hour she abandoned, and from whom she derives any respectability that is still left her. We would, through pure affection, take away from the English Church all that savour of mammon and state patronage, those rotten crutches upon which she leans for support in her tottering weakness, because we think this wandering child would soon find her way back again to her mother's house. Whilst the Prodigal feasted luxuriously he never thought of the happy home he had quitted; it was only when he was reduced to the husks of swine that he bethought of returning to his affectionate Father:—

“Manifestly unjust and unfair as this is, the people of this country not belonging to the Established Church of England have been subject to it ever since the Government was established.

Yes, my fellow countrymen, ever since our Country has had a Legislature, or a Government, now for nearly one hundred years, the Church of England has been the recipient of privileges, advantages, and pecuniary and other emoluments, which have been withheld from the others. Privileges, advantages and emoluments, which are as unjust to be withheld from the four-fifths—comprehending the Catholics, and all the dissenting sects of Protestants—as the gift of them is to the Church of England.

I am convinced that dissenters generally are not aware of the extent to which this wrong has been, and continues to be, practiced amongst us, otherwise they could not have so quietly submitted to it, for such a length of time. Such is the case, however, and the enactment recorded on our statute book proves it beyond the possibility of a doubt.

The following are some of the causes of which we have a right to complain—and to submit to them any longer would be a scandal to ourselves and our children.

1st. Laws in their favour that enable them to tax their own people for Church rates, and to recover the same before the civil magistrate—which right no other sect possesses.

2nd. The right by law to tax Catholics, Protestant Dissenters, and all others, who may be living secluded from the Church to which they belong—and where there is no minister of their own to whom they contribute support.

3rd. Keeping in their own hands, and subjecting to their control, upwards of 130,000 acres of land, granted for the purpose

of general education,—and in many cases drawing large sums of money for rents of portions of the same.

4th. The enjoyment of large and valuable portions of land in every part of the Province, granted to their church for Glebes.

5th. The privilege of charging burial fees, in Halifax and elsewhere.

6th. The perpetual grant of £444 annually to Kings College, at Windsor,—which they have now received out of the public chest for a great number of years.

7th. A perpetual grant of £187 10s to their Grammar School in Halifax,—which they have also enjoyed since an early period of the Settlement of the Country.

8th. The enjoyment of extensive grants of land for the use of their College. They have one tract in the County of Sydney alone containing 10,000 acres.

9th. Being constituted by law “The established Church of the Province.”

10th. Their Bishop occupying a seat in the Legislative Council, in his capacity as Head of their Church, where he is on the spot, to advocate the exclusive rights of his sect, and has an effectual opportunity of defending all their abuses.

11th. Their Bishop being in the Legislature, and, as head of their church, having free access at Government House, has enabled him to secure for those of his sect more than the amount of Government patronage which their numbers entitle them to—until very lately Churchmen monopolized nearly all the Government patronage.

The above are some of the advantages enjoyed by that sect, which are withheld from all others. Why should it be so? This question is asked by all those not of the favoured sects,—by every upright, conscientious man,—and by every sincere christian belonging to the establishment itself.”

IRISH RELIEF ASSOCIATION.

The Monthly Meeting of this Association, was held in St. Mary's Parochial School Room, on Monday Evening—His Lordship, the Right Rev. Dr. WALSH, in the chair. On assuming the Chair, his Lordship briefly addressed the Association, as to the duty and obligations of members, suggesting, as a difference of opinion was known to exist in reference to the disposal of the funds, the consideration of the question—whether the amount on hand, with the receipts of the Evening should be forwarded by the next Packet—retained for a month, till further information as to the progress or decrease of the distress at Home, was received—or expended, in relieving, as circumstances might require, the distressed emigrants, thrown upon our shores. His Lordship alluded to a meeting held on a previous evening, suggestive of encouragement for the poor emigrant, got up by the Committee—the minutes of which were to be presented to the Association for approval, and confirmation. He said it was their duty to extend the hand of christian charity to those poor emigrants now thrown among them.—They were their brothers—Natives of the same soil—Members of the same faith—and entitled to their sympathy and aid.

Several sums of money received during the month by collectors were now bro't in, which, with the collections of the evening, amounted to about £55 16s 11d—making the whole sum now in hand £120 2s. 9d.

The Rt. Rev. Chairman again alluded to the disposal of the funds, and suggested that if it was decided not to transmit these at present, the committee should be entrusted with a discretionary power to expend a part, or the whole, as occasion may require, in relieving the distressed among those emigrants now arrived, or who may arrive. Some opposition was given to the