

profit. It is better to tell the truth and be hanged for it, than to be upheld in state by flattery and dishonesty. I have accordingly chosen my part, and have sought to expose the weaknesses in the present policy of the Church in Canada, knowing that by so doing I shall call down the opposition of many.

Now I fancy some one saying, granted that all these things are true, what good is there in drawing attention to them? Does not such a course only increase the evils? That is a strain with which I am quite familiar. Those who profit by any abuse are always accustomed to raise this cry. But, brethren, there is sophistry as well as selfishness at the bottom of it. One would fancy to hear them speak that he who reveals the evil creates it. Whereas every one knows who is acquainted with such matters, that the only way to cure such evils is to expose them, and let the purifying light of public opinion stream upon them.

Then I can imagine some one saying, is that the way to attract students to the sacred profession? to parade before them reasons why they should adopt any other calling than this one? Dear brethren, the evil has reached its height, and I believe we shall have few students until these abuses are removed. Let them be done away with, and then no one shall have a chance to call attention to them. The physician has to be impressed with the gravity of the crisis in his patient before he will bestir himself to check the disease. And so the way to bring health to the ecclesiastical, as well as the physical atmosphere, is to stir it well up.

Others will again hint that these things are to me personal matters, otherwise I should not attach so much importance to them. If it were not that to many selfish natures it is inconceivable that men can be actuated by other than motives of personal interest, and that such will therefore admit no disclaimer as of sufficient force to remove the suspicion of selfishness, it might be enough to say that those who venture to impute motives always run a narrow risk, and that they do greater mischief to themselves than to those whom they uncharitably suspect. But, brethren, you know me better than to judge my motives harshly. By your partiality I was chosen your minister, when the prospects of this congregation might be regarded as doubtful, and by your zealous co-operation, through the blessing of God upon our joint endeavours, it has in the course of five years risen to a high position in