

thing now. The reasonable reply might be, how far my professions are in accordance with my convictions are not for you to judge, that matter rests between myself and my Maker only. Why if a man never changed his opinions, where would be the use of any research after truth? and of what use would be all the books which have ever been written on a variety of subjects, if men were determined to stick to the same class of ideas which occupied their minds in early life, until the end thereof? what would be the consequence? Why, if they were wrong when they set out of course they never could be right. If ignorance, darkness and error enveloped their minds in early life, the same melancholy delusion must accompany them to their graves. The wisest men have changed their opinions, and changed them on rational grounds too, from reading, conversation, and reflection, and there have been some modification of thought and feeling for some time past on that sadly vexed question the Clergy Reserves. I have for many years thought it would be a perfectly just act, to turn the whole amount of the government grant into another channel, and apply it to the purposes of general education, but on more mature reflection, I feel impressed with the belief, that this almost sacred right of church property, which has been so long enjoyed by the church, is a vested right, received by legal endowment, and should not be wrested from the church with a ruthless hand, but should at present be handled with a delicacy of touch and feeling towards a highly respectable body of Christians, and matters relating thereto, should be changed only so far as would give general satisfaction to the diversified sections of the Protestant Church. The great error rests in the home government in this matter, in not extending the grant to the whole protestant community, and not in the people in receiving and holding the grant as a legal right. And this has been the cause of almost all the troubles and heart burn-

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