

benefit of it, do we suppose that this procedure of the government will have any tendency to render the way more open or easy to a satisfactory adjustment of the question? Are we to accept this as an earnest of the confidence due to its professions, not to force upon us a dominant church?—In fine, does this look like juggling or fair straight forward dealing?

The signal imprudence of such a measure in the very excited and sensitively jealous state of public feeling in both Provinces, is not a little enhanced by the seemingly unmanly, and pusillanimous manner of doing it. The late governor who had been popular up to that date, and for ought we know justly popular, and had contrived to inspire the clergy of the Church of Scotland at least, with the opinion that he was opposed to the erecting of a dominant Church, set his seal, just as he was going out of office, to a measure which he must have foreseen would excite a storm of public indignation, a measure which shows as little of honest and magnanimous dealing, in the manner in which it was brought out, as it savours of sound and liberal policy in its first concoction. When we consider in what time and place, in what circumstances of the government and in what mood of the popular mind this consummation of political blundering, to call it by no harsher name, was enacted, one feels all the emphasis of the exclamation of the Swedish statesman Oxenstiern, "O my son, thou knowest not with how little wisdom the world is governed!"

We hesitate not to proclaim our conviction that a few more acts, such as these, would inevitably, and we will add, most justly tear up by the roots all confidence in our rulers both at home and in the Colony; and, we speak it solemnly—indignantly, we shall require very unequivocal evidence of a very different spirit in those, by whose counsels, and under whose auspices, such foolhardy and evil omened measures have been passed, ere we feel it safe to give them our confidence, or to relax the most jealous vigilance in regard to their political views and proceedings. If they were wise to discern the signs of the times, to understand the nature of the ground on which they tread, and the stuff which the people of these Colonies are made of, they would hasten to obliterate the dangerous impressions, which such exceedingly ill-timed and unwarrantable acts have necessarily created, and it would not at this moment be left in doubt, what are the views and intentions of our rulers, in regard to the most important and certainly the most exciting of all subjects connected with our Colonial Politics.

We would earnestly adjure the country to mark and ponder well the actual position in which we stand at this moment, and the artful and insidious means which are employed to steal around our necks the hateful, the ignominious fetters of ecclesiastical domination, a thing so utterly incompatible with the circumstances of these Colonies, and so extremely repugnant to the spirit and sentiments of the vast majority of the population, nay, may we not add, to the majority even of that portion who are members of the Church of England, that one is lost in astonishment at the more than folly—at the insatiation which pos-