

then, of contributing of their substance to the maintenance of those who labour amongst them as pastors, must be, and I believe is in some few cases, strongly pressed upon native Protestants. But how can they be expected to feel that this is really a Christian duty as long as they see their comparatively wealthy European fellow-Christians contributing nothing towards the support of their own ministers, but looking to the Government to pay them from the taxes collected from the community at large?"

It is comfortable to reflect that Clergy Reserves, *et hoc genus omne*, ejected from Canada, are not likely to find refuge in Ceylon. It is certainly not to be imagined that the Gospel is to be permanently maintained among the Christians of one country by those of another, especially if the temporal circumstances of the former are better than those of the latter. The United Presbyterians of Canada do not labour under the disadvantage of having to look to their more immediate brethren at home, as doing nothing for the support of their ministers, but throwing the burden on the community at large. The Free Church here, we believe, is now entirely self-sustaining; having, at last Synod, declined to receive any longer the sum hitherto allowed by the Church in Scotland, for the support of Knox's College: and we understand that a Foreign Mission is also in contemplation. The marvellous contributions of the Free Church appear to us the more marvellous that, in so far as she holds the Establishment principle, she cannot exhibit the duty of contributing as absolutely and essentially involved in Christianity itself—the aspect best fitted to affect the conscience—but must urge it only as an expedient to be had recourse to when better cannot be done, when the State fails to do its duty. Our own Church, holding almost universally the voluntary principle, has the vast advantage of representing contribution for the maintenance of the Gospel as part and parcel of our religion itself—something which “the Lord hath ordained.” The amount raised by us, therefore, ought, in proportion to our numbers and our means, to exceed that by the Free Church. Alas! that our principles and our practice are so sadly at variance.

POPIISH PRAYER IN THE TIME OF CHOLERA.

The subjoined piece of Popish devotion was, by accident, omitted from page 23, at the close of Mr. Lambert's letter from Trinidad. We now insert it, as a specimen of the Popery which prevails in that island. For Catholicism, with all its pretensions to unity, presents aspects widely different in different circumstances. We doubt if a Roman Catholic Bishop in Canada, or the States, would have sanctioned such a prayer as this. We are persuaded that, in Britain, no one would have ventured to exclude all direct reference to the Saviour. The following is a translation, the original being in French:—

“Prayer against the Cholera.

“Preserve us my God from all epidemic and from all evil contagion. O Mary, tender mother, O Saint Genevieve and Saint Roch, intercede for us.

“Orison.

“O God, all powerful, who for the punishment of sin hast ordained by an immutable law that we must all submit to death, I prostrate myself before Thee to pray Thee to preserve me as well as those who are dear to me from the terrible plague which is extending its ravages in all our country. It is by the intercession of Mary, tender mother, of Saint Genevieve and of Saint Roch, to whom thou hast so often granted favors in like calamities, that I hope to obtain pity and mercy. However, my God thy holy will and not mine be done; thou knowest better than I that which is for my good. So let it be. Thrice holy Trinity protect us. *Amen.*”

READING REFORM.

On Saturday, 13th January, Alexander J. Ellis, Esq., formerly Editor of the *Phonetic News*, delivered a lecture before the Educational Institute, in the High School, Edinburgh, on “the Reading Reform,—an improved system of teaching to read in the ordinary print, by means of a course of phonetic reading.” Mr. Pryde occupied the chair. Mr. Ellis at great length, explained the nature of the phonetic