

"Blessed are the dead which ^{ing the truth of God's Word and} saying "Blessed are the dead die in the Lord."—Rev. xiv. 13. ^{which die in the National Church."}

REFLECTIONS.

The foregoing comparison is either true or false. If true (and let every one search the Scriptures for himself to see whether it be so or not) every man whether he be high or low, rich or poor, learned or unlearned, has a plain duty to perform with respect to *State Churches and National Systems of Religion*.

To have a standing army of priests clothed, and fed, and in the hire of the Civil Government, is politically dangerous and spiritually ruinous. The law which has made and upholds them is immoral, because contrary to the rights and opposed to the well known wishes of the country, and should therefore be repealed. To carry out such a Law in Canada, is an intolerable usurpation of power which should be resisted by every lawful means. The tax imposed to maintain the system is indirect but not the less real and oppressive; for the known existence in Canada West alone, of NINETY ONE well fed and well clothed, and well paid agents to the Bishop of Toronto, a clever political tactician and to the government, proves that a sum of not less than from \$30,000 to \$50,000, is already being *spent annually to build up ANTICHRIST in the Colony*. What then is the duty of every good citizen and christian? Plainly it is, to put aside all human creeds and take the New Testament as his sole guide in religion, for who would drink of a polluted stream of error, when he might more easily go to the fountain head and drink of the living spring of truth. It is his duty to avoid all Religious Teachers who are *Hirelings of the State* as the enemies of the public good—"to receive them not into his house neither to bid them God speed," but to encourage and support all true ministers of the Gospel "*who watch for souls as those who must give account.*" And also on every political occasion to support as candidates for office those only who are the friends and advocates of the *Voluntary Principle* (which is the Scriptural principle) and who are the uncompromising opposers of all ecclesiastical imposts and monopolies.

THE FOOLISH BARGAIN.

Would not that be a foolish bargain, if a man sold a house and some acres of land for a few pence? Would not that man make a foolish bargain, who agreed to go seven years as a slave for a week's rich living? Would not that be a foolish bargain, for a man to sell all he had in the world for three draughts of sweet liquor? But all these are good bargains, compared to a man who gains the whole world, and loses his own soul. What foolish bargains do many make, who, for a few sinful short-lived pleasures, sell all their hopes of a better world; and to please the appetites of the body, neglect the soul, which must live for ever and ever. That is dear bought sabbath-breaking, dear bought lies, dear bought swearing, dear bought drinking, dear bought neglect of salvation, which is purchased with the losing of the soul. Con-