

and little supposing they were thereby only strengthening the hands of Dissenters, and the greatest enemies of our National Church. Immediately these enemies gathered strength, Dissenters everywhere took courage, and the disestablishment cry was raised, which is now shaking Scotland to its centre.

We believe that the Church at home has now got her eyes opened to the true aspects and fatal results of the "Union" movement, and will gladly remedy it as far as she can. We believe, indeed, that if our brethren in Scotland only knew a hundredth part of the distress of our good people in Canada at losing their Kirk, their hearts would be melted. Everywhere in Canada may be seen the same desolation, entailed upon the Kirk by the "Union Acts." It would fill volumes to detail the heartburnings and sufferings which our faithful Scottish people endured for years while defending the Church of Scotland. It was sad, indeed, to see their churches seized by aliens, and the rightful owners driven out of them. The old settlers could not begin anew, with the vigour of other days, to build new churches. They had not the means to do so; and even if they did the oppressive Acts overpowering a Unionist, or rather Communist, majority to seize all Scotch churches would soon have driven them out of these also. Some expelled from their own churches are now worshipping in halls rented for the purpose; others in wooden barns and log-houses, and beneath the shelter of the forest. In many places the "Union" movement proved a complete failure, but in others it greatly injured the Kirk—her churches being seized by aliens under the "Union" Act, the congregations driven out of them, missionary and charitable schemes stopped, Sabbath schools broken up, ministers ejected from their charges, the resources of congregations strained to the utmost to meet the tremendous costs of litigation arising out of the oppressive "Union" Acts, their trustees interdicted under hundreds of thousands of dollars penalties from using their own churches! and funds for aged ministers, widows, and orphans being all seized by the Unionists. Everywhere I heard the same complaints. Men on the shores of Huron

and those on the shores of the Atlantic, a thousand miles apart, told me one and the same tale—that the "Union" was the greatest evil that had ever befallen them; that it was a plot of enemies to overthrow the Church of Scotland; that the people never desired it, and that they were sick and tired of half-taught "Union" preachers, and prayed that the mother Church would send out to them again real Scotch ministers. And this is the point to which I would draw your attention. The Colonial Committee's reports show that aid has been granted not to the Kirk, but to her opponents. Without noticing what the committee has granted them for years past, I refer only to their report of grants to them for last year alone, as published in the present May number of the *Missionary Record*, page 39. From that report it appears that not less a sum than £2691, 18s. 4d. was granted to the Unionists of Canada for one year alone. Now, this is too bad—Two thousand six hundred and ninety-one pounds eighteen shillings and elevenpence, *in one year*, to the Church of Scotland's greatest enemies! This sum is as large as that given to five or six other colonies put together, who are our friends! Surely in these times of hostility the Church of Scotland cannot afford to aid enemies, or to lose friends either at home or abroad.

Instead of thus aiding the enemies of the Church of Scotland, how much better would it be to aid her friends. How much could be done to our suffering Church in Canada by even a small portion of the funds at the disposal of the committee. We have many vacant charges to fill up to which young men might be sent by the committee; we have heavy law costs which they might lighten; we have faithful pastors preaching almost for nothing whose salaries they might supplement; we have trustees involved in tremendous legal expenses in defence of the Kirk whom they might help; we have congregations driven by the Union Acts out of their own churches whom they might aid in the erection of new churches; we have aged ministers, widows, and orphans deprived of the funds whom they might assist. Earnestly let us hope that our beloved National Church will henceforth