

of the Divine Redeemer and the God-given rights of conscience have been more frequently and grievously violated by the professed followers of Christ and the avowed friends of man, than by the open and declared enemies of either or both. Sorely has Christ been wounded, and is still being "wounded in the house of His friends." There is a clamant necessity for lifting up the voice on His behalf and on behalf of His enfeebled groaning Body, the Church. This Journal has from time to time given forth utterances, at least not wanting, in distinctness, condemnatory of all connection between Church and State. Its former Editor has long occupied a place in the front ranks of the enlightened on this vital question, and he was not the man to hide his convictions when the ends of truth and justice required their frank avowal and unreserved expression, as the pages of this periodical amply tell. During the brief period of our editorial rule we have endeavoured, in our humble way, to endorse and abet the sentiments on this subject so ably presented in these pages by our talented and revered predecessor.

We would less regret the demise of our unpretending serial if we had any ground to hope that any other propounding similar principles, would find its way into the families of the Canada Presbyterian Church, or even into the hands of those who have been our readers. But we dare not cherish any such hope. It is probable that the official and patronized organs of the Church may now and again utter a grumble or a growl when any State favour is bestowed on a sister sect, but we shall be greatly and delightedly surprised if they boldly assail and condemn the principle of Church and State connection. Mere selfishness may and does prompt parties to murmur dissatisfaction when State honours and largesses are conferred on other religious sects who would have no objections to such favours were their sect the recipient and on its own terms. Such conduct is disgraceful and seriously damaging to the cause of ecclesiastical emancipation. It is exceedingly desirable in these days, when sectarian schools and colleges are being liberally aided by the State—when several large religious sects are being or have been bought with public money—that a standard be lifted up to the people, shewing that all grants and immunities by the State on the score of religion are unscriptural, impolitic, and unjust; that any compact with the civil government on the part of the Church is essentially evil in principle, and continually injurious in practice. Unless this be done, and done speedily, we may expect dark days in Canada. With the full consent and ready help of an unprincipled government, the Popish hierarchy and certain recreant Protestant sects, which batten on Provincial spoils, unrighteously gathered, are fast forging chains that will lie heavily on the conscience as well as on the property of the future inhabitants of the land. Unless their machinations be exposed and arrested, and the rising tide of politico-ecclesiastical tyranny rolled back, Canada will ere long become anything but a fitting home for a Christian free: