

procedure has been justified by reasons so conclusive,—then, surely, you must admit that we at least are not chargeable with the blame of the disruption; that if it was not called for in one sense, it was most imperatively called for in another; and, that they who rendered it necessary by their uncalled for disregard to principle and expediency, and every motive which ought to have weighed with them in the matter, are the proper parties against whom your indignation at this “so uncalled for disruption” ought to burn. We venture to say, that, if you only once understand the subject, your indignation at this “uncalled for disruption” will not indeed be lessened—on the contrary, we believe it will be deepened—but that it will flow in a very different channel.

But you demur to the correctness of the positions with respect to the sin of the Established Church of Scotland, and the duty of the Synod in Canada, which we have just laid down. Very proper! We do not wish you to take them for granted, as you have been taking the opinions on which you have hitherto been acting, *without enquiry*. What we desire is, that you should hear, and weigh dispassionately what we have to say, and then judge for yourselves, as reason and conscience shall approve. We do not dread investigation,—we court it. We do not muzzle the mouths of those who come among us to support our cause,—we love free and full discussion. What we dread is, judgement pronounced in ignorance,—sentimental tears about “this uncalled for disruption” precluding enquiry,—and the common places of prejudice and selfishness bandied about as arguments, and substituted for the dictates of sound principle and common sense.

Let us hope that you will follow and ponder over our arguments, while we proceed briefly to lay before you the grounds upon which we justify our procedure, in separating from the Synod in connection with the Church of Scotland, and on which we believe that that procedure should commend itself to every friend of the spiritual independence of the Church, and every well-wisher to the cause of Christ in Canada. We believe that many are repelled from the examination of the subject, by the complication of the details which require to be considered, and the contradictory assertions in regard to matters of fact which are made on the opposite sides;—we shall, therefore, endeavour to present the subject in as simple a form as possible, and to establish the positions advanced, by a reference to irrefragable proofs. Only discard from your minds all regard to bold and general assertions on either side; and, by the verdict which you