

thought, for their hands to touch, which they should have been the last men to have stirred. These are the identical writers of the circular letter which was addressed, not to the Moderator of the Synod, as that of Dr. Welsh on behalf of the Free Church, but to our Ministers individually, holding forth the inducement of salaries to such as would give the pledge of bona fide adherence to the establishment. Let it be borne in mind that this was done with the full knowledge and certainty of the unanimous expression of the mind of our Synod, and, thereby, if any regard is to be had to Presbyterian order, of the whole Canadian Church, in reference to the questions that had caused the Disruption of the Parent Church. The Report states "that they have shunned even the appearance of *bribing* any to remain—but they will not fail to support and encourage all who in principle do so" and it is added very significantly "to those they must of necessity confine that support and encouragement from the very terms of the trust committed to them!" I would just ask, was it or was it not, tampering with principle and integrity when such a circular was addressed to men, known very well by the writers to be solemnly pledged by their own spontaneous act, long before the disruption of the Parent Church to the cause of the Free Church? Was it or was it not an act, bearing the strongest likeness of bribery and corruption, when very needy Ministers in the backwoods of Canada were honoured with a letter, containing such an alluring promise, with a condition of which, if the fulfilment had only been as innocent and honorable, as it was easy, would have left all the credit of a pious and generous and well applied liberality to the Established Church? As it is we hesitate not to brand this deed, as most cri-