

in this Province the moment it began to be entertained and witnessed to. The Christian Guardian, the Methodist oracle in Canada, set to the work of reviling and calumniating Mr. Irving and the doctrines he taught, and of holding up to ridicule other persons who had embraced and acted upon those long forgotten truths of the Gospel; and two local preachers were expelled the Methodist Connexion for the same crime of teaching that the church should now be as she was at first. I was attacked publicly by the Guardian, and threatened privately from another quarter by letter: but none of these things moved me, or in the least hindered my bearing witness to the truth. The Lord has hitherto upheld me, and I trust will to the end.

The Churches in England are enacting towards this work of the Lord a similar tragedy with what the Jewish Church enacted against it in their day. They rejected their Lord and sought to kill him; first by assisting Herod, and afterwards when he began his ministry. He would have made the Lord's priests his friends, his confidants, his apostles and ministers and prophets; but they would not, and so he took the poor fishermen of Galilee, and broke to pieces his own priesthood because of their rebellion against their Lord and Head. They might have continued his still, by a simple act of translation from under the law to under the Gospel, from ministering under Moses the carnal ordinances to ministering under Christ as apostles and prophets; and their temple might have stood till this day, and their state and nation have remained undisturbed in transit from one dispensation to another; but they would not; wherefore their house is left unto them desolate until the Lord's second coming. The churches in Britain had a similar offer when the prophetic Spirit was restored; but the Bishops and Presbyteries and Assemblies set themselves at once to oppose the work, and to cast out as vile heretics those who acknowledged it. It was not the Lord's will to break them with his rod of iron; but rather to take them up and use them to his glory, because they stood in his ordinances as the heads of his people. He wished rather to strengthen the things that remained, that were ready to die (Rev. iii. 2), and perfect them according to his own perfect model; but they would not, and therefore must their house also be left unto them desolate—and desolate forever! He would have taken the whole nation (aye, the whole of Christendom) lovingly in his hand, and led it forward smoothly into the coming kingdom, and given it his own perfect ordinances in the world to come: but the nation has in a body rejected his counsel of love and peace, and therefore he must dash it to pieces in