

were she to remonstrate, the personal bounty bestowed on a considerable number of her officials, would be in danger of being withdrawn, and the legal right which she has now to a *small slice* of the Clergy Reserves might be taken from her ; and therefore deems it expedient and prudent to be silent on the subject of suppressing heresies, and, in the meantime, to suck the same breasts with the Episcopalian and Roman Catholic Churches. But, in a word, the Kirk of Scotland may be the best pattern in the world, of a State-Church, but like all other State-Churches, she is constitutionally a persecutor. Her doctrine about the civil magistrate's power, plainly inculcates the persecuting of all who dissent from her ; consequently, to the extent of her assimilation to this spirit and character of the world, she is *without the covenanted mercy of God*.

The ministers and priests of State-Churches are, generally, characterized by a haughty demeanour. Being the salaried officers of the civil government, and made thus independent of their hearers for their support, they can scarcely avoid being more or less haughty in their intercourse with their hearers, and particularly with the poor and working classes. Being the servants of the civil government, they could not conscientiously declare with Paul, " We preach—ourselves your servants for Christ's sake ;" and many of them despise being considered the servants of their hearers. Legal dignity radiates from the throne throughout all the ramifications of the civil Government, down to the police officer and the village constable. All the servants of Government are invested with the same kind of dignity ; but it is higher and lower according to the offices which they hold. The dignity of a parish minister, or priest, is of the same kind with that of the exciseman ; and its being much higher arises from the importance which Government attaches to the State-Church in which he holds office. The high legal dignity of State Priests excites aristocratic feelings, tempts them to follow the manners and customs of the higher ranks of society, and to look down from their state pedestals with contempt and scorn on dissenting ministers and their congregations. The Bishops of the State Church of England look down from their high legal position with contempt on all dissenters, and even on the State Kirk of Scotland and its ministers. The royal favour shewn to the Church of England in Canada, imparts a superior legal dignity to her Right Reverend Fathers in God, and, doubtless, they feel the importance of their elevation above the ministers of all the other denominations. The Independent minister of Toronto possesses, certainly, as far as man can judge, as many of the qualifications and characteristics of a christian Bishop, as Bishop Strachan does ; but would not Bishop Strachan stare with astonishment and contempt, were his dissenting neighbour to claim equal dignity with *him*, among the people of Toronto ? most assuredly, he would. His dissenting neighbour might not think of controverting his Apostolical succession ; but he cannot but disapprove of Government giving the Bishop such a high legal position to proclaim such an un-