

be well, however, if all would fulfil their promises in that same way, miserable in a Christian point of view as it is, but many others consider their subscription towards a minister's support as the very last debt to be paid,—or which they need not trouble themselves to pay while any conceivable want of their own remains unsupplied—or, if it be paid an indefinite number of years hence, it is well enough: while yet another class think they but great honours on a minister by going, when *convenient* to hear him, without giving a penny for his support:—and they wrest Scripture for their own justification: “Freely ye have received, freely give;” and triumphantly refer to the example of the Saviour, “who had not where to lay his head,” never seeing, or at all events not heeding, that thus they claim brotherhood with those who rejected and persecuted him. The people of Grand River, we are happy to say, have manifested a very different spirit. Considering that the elder portion of them, who were brought up in the Highlands of Scotland, were not accustomed to see ministers supported directly by the people, and that they have been so many years without stated ordinances, and considering that the younger portion, born and brought up in this country, were not previously accustomed to be summoned to the house of God, except, at the utmost, two, or three, or four times in the year, when a member of Presbytery could spare a few days to visit them, it would not certainly be strange if they did not act better than other congregations, who have enjoyed a preached gospel and divine ordinances for some years. But to the honour of the congregation in question, and as a *hint* to other congregations of our church, both in Cape Breton and Nova Scotia, let it be written, and printed, and published, that so soon as they had a minister settled among them, and before any of them applied to him for any church privilege, they declared in very intelligible language, by purchasing as a glebe for their minister, in a beautiful situation, and very convenient to the church, a lot of land containing 200 acres—with a considerable extent of it cleared, and a frame house upon it, which, with a little repair, will serve very well in the meantime as a manse, their sense of their privileges. But this is not all. As it would be but a rather dreary prospect to pass the winter within the bare walls of a house—they also, at the same time, collected and paid into the minister's hand,

a half year's stipend in advance. If any other church has done so well, let us be farther encouraged by its publication.—May we not regard this not only as a pledge that these people will continue thus exemplary in their Christian liberality, but also as a token for good to themselves, that when they have so readily opened their hand to give of their temporal things, the Lord will open the hearts of many among them, as he did the heart of Lydia, to hear the good message spoken to them from Sabbath to Sabbath. Let prayer be made for them, and for their amiable and talented minister, that he may go out and in among them, in the fulness of the gospel of Christ, so that from the good seed sown by him, many of them may reap life everlasting. This congregation does not exceed the average of other congregations either in numbers or wealth, but they have shewed what may be done by united exertion when there is a willing mind; and to every other congregation of our Church in this Province, any of whose members may read this, we would say, “Go and do likewise.”

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WHAT OUGHT PROTESTANTS TO DO AT THIS CRISIS.

But the question remains, What ought British Protestants to do at this crisis? That it is a crisis is manifest. Rome now does not seek even to deceive us. She tells us more plainly than words could tell us, by deeds which sound through all Europe, that torture and the stake await every man who is not base enough to abjure his faith whenever she shall have grasped the power she is now moving earth and hell to attain. One warning more, plain and loud, has been given to a slumbering people; and on the way on which we shall improve it will probably depend the issue of the conflict to us. It summons us to combine and stand for our liberties. The ground is fast sinking beneath us. In a little, defence will be impossible.

Let us look along the Papal front, and see how ominously the battle threatens us, and how it comes nearer us every hour. Popery is again the ruler of the great despotisms on the continent.—Though weak in moral power, Rome is strong in political and military force.—The great armed masses of France, and Austria, and Naples, and Spain, are at her service. And though we believe