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The foll Committee in 1828. If your silence

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5th. Th you conce that, " in Cañadian
Scotch, wl there man new Towi be "next" giving you 6th. Fo my guide, yourself, I "how Mr taken to ir that, " mu juyns"

## TO MR. GEORGE RYERSON.

sir.
The following remarks are made on the evidence given by you before the Committee of the House of Commons, on the Civit Government of Canada, In 1828. If you think proper you can answer them : if you decline to reply, your silence must be construed into an acquiescence of their correctness.
You assnme the population to be
And at page 222, of the minutes of evidence, you say that about one fifth part of that population is Methodists, or

40,000.
Which leaves
160,000, for other denominations.

How you account for the whole 200,000 , I shall endeavour to ascertain from your evidence; for if you are condemned, it shall be on your own shewing-out of your own mouth.

At page 217, you say, without any qualification whatever, that "the Methodists are the most numerous"-and you are a Methodist yourself. For argument sake, take we this for granted,--it may possibly be so in fact.
You are then asked, "What denomination is next to them (the Methodists) in number?" to which you answer-"I think the different classes of Presbyterians." Now, before I go any farther, to preserve order, I take what you term the most numerous.
1st. The Methodists,
2d. Next, "the different classes of Presbyterians," giving you fair play, say
3d. Following this mode of interrogation, you are again asked, "What denomination do you conceive to be next to them (the Presbyterians) in number?" you answer, "I think the Church of England, and the Baptists, are about equal in number, and next to the Presbyterians." Now if we can ascertain the number of Baptists, we shall come pretty nearly at what you would represent as being the number of the Church of England; for you say they are about equal. Here then, there is not much of difficulty to șhew what you would represent that number to be, although you do not speak it out in terms. I come at it in the following manner:-You say, with respect to Mr. Morrison's Chart, that, " much pains was taken to ascertain the correctness of its returns."-That Chart gives the Baptists 5740 : the Church of Engtand then, according to your account, " about equal," will give as lier number,
4th. And for the Baptists, the same,
5th. Then. with respect to the Catholics, you are asked-" ${ }^{\text {Do }}$ you conceive them to be very numerous?" You answer generally, that, "in the Upper.District there are a few Townships of French Cainadians,-and in the lower part, a Township of Highland Scotch, who are Roman Catholics"-you are further asked-"Are there many Irish Catholics?" you answer, "there are some few in the new Townships recently inhabited." Supposing them, however, to be "next" in the order assumed in your evidence, we shall have, giving you fair play again,
6th. For other sects and denominations, I take the following 23 my guide, and as I mean, Mr. Ryerson, to make you speak for yourself, I ground it upon your own words. You are then acked, "how Mr. Morrison's Chart was formed, and what means were taken to insure its correctness ?" You tell the Committee in reply, that, "much pains was taken to ascertain the correctness of the re-

ministers and other intelligent individuals"-and above all, that
"the Chart was published in Canada, where any errors would (not could) be discovered and exposed, by those interested in the subject." Take we then, that "Chart," in the compilation of which "so much pains was taken," for the remaining denomniations. It givee us-Menonists and Tunkers,

7th. Wesleyan Methodists,
8th. But that it may not be said that I omit to give you credit for any other that should be included in the reckoning, let me refer you, Mr. Ryerson, to your "additional particulars," at page 222 , relative to the religious denominations of Upper Canada. "These are," you say, "1st. Episcopalians, 2d. Presbyterians, 3d. Methodists, 4th. Baptists, 5th. Quakers, 6th. Menonists, 7th. Roman Catholics, and a few others, very inconsiderable in number." In the enumeration I have already made, I have included the whole of your '7 classes, except "Quakers"-Of these the Chart of the Central Committee says nothing-Allowing them to be your last "next" -fair play again, to swell the number for you, we shall have, after Roman Catholice,
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40,000,
you give us a total of souls in Upper Canada, wandering wist 88,819, (frightful!) of the whole population-one fifth, neither hot nor cold towards any religious denomination; and more than another fifth, totally sunk in the estimate. Is not this incredible, Mr. Ryerson? and if the Committee before which you gave your evidence should have taken the trouble to make such a calculation as is here made, what must they have thought of that evidence, coming as it did, from a person that tells them as you do, (page 216) "that you are acquainted with the Provinces of Canada, that you have lived there about ${ }_{3}$ years, and that you are a Landowner and a Magistrate in the District of London in Upper Canada, and have been for a number of years?"
As Agent for the "Central Committee," you say that it was your object "to vindicate the character of certain religious denominations." You have

to be divid luation, It must concerned, from Color 800,000 more ama and ;" so our estima
Third"next" and nembers of Canada?" nswer wist ou, and yo eply-"I

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s, your object
You have "" denomina-
tion, at the expense of 88,819 of our inhabitants, whom you represent to being without any fixed religicus principles, or what is perhaps as bad or worse, you sink altogether in the account. Can you suppose, Mr. Ryerson, that any reasonable man, on reading the foregoing calculation, founded as it is on your own evidence, will not say that you have been guilty of misrepresentation; and, that you have done any thing but vindicate any, except a "certain" donomination.
Let me now offer you a few observations on some of the above sects, comparing your statements made in London, with those of others made before a Committee of the House of Assembly in Upper Canada, on the same subject, for by the management of the "Central Committee" the Farce has been enacted in both places ; and by comparing them also, with other statements which have gone abroad.
And, first-I shall take the Roman Catholics :-
The Rev. Angus McDonald, in his examination before the Committce of our House of Assembly, in 1828, says that he believes there are
Your account of them, giving you every allowance, by extending the number to its utmost possible limits that your "nexts" will admit of-makes them about
The diffcrence, and truly an amazing one, is . . . . . $\mathbf{6 , 0 0 0}$

- The differens to Presbyterians, Dr. Lee, in his report to the Gen36,000. eral Assembly, from information received from the Colony, says, there are "warmly attached to the Church of Scotland," (not "different classcs")-

Your account of them all, says, as i have before stated, giving you every allowance in the power of numbers, consistent with pre-
vious evidence, . . . . . . . .

39,999.
The differcnce between you and Dr. Lee, is .d.e. . 110,001 , to saj nothing of the difference between you of "different classes," and "warmly attached to the Church of Scotland." But, giving you both credit for speaking the tiuth, each of your own sect, this reckoning will form a curious item in the general calculation.
$H_{e}$ says there are Presbyterians,
You say there are Methodists,
Which would make
Leaving only . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . $190,000$.
促
to be divided among all others, to make np your estimate of the pop-
$200,000$.
It must be placed to the credit of the account, however, as far as you are
 rom Colonial information, (amazing!) tacks on another 100,000, and calls it 30,000 -one half of whicl number, from the same source of information, more amazing!!) he states to be "warmly attached to the Church of Scotand;" so that in your estimate of Presbyterians, you differ 110,001, and in our estimate of population you differ 100,000, (most amazing !!!)
Third-With respect to the Church of England: After going through your next" and "next," you are asked, "what proportion do you conceive the embers of the Church of England bears to the whole population in Upper Canada?" you unswer, "It is impossibīe for me to say," and for once you nswer wisely. But the Committee are determined to get something out of ou, and you are then asked-"Do you think they are one tenth part?" You eply-"I do not think they are," you think they are one tenth part?" You
you are pushed into a corner by being asked-"Do you think they are a fifteenth ?" and to this you answer, "It is probable they do amount to that, or perhaps one tenth;" and you add what the question had nothing to do with"I should think one fifth do not belong to any religious denomination." Now, Mr. Ryerson, when you was pushed home by these questions you seem to have forgotten (or perhaps you were confused, that you said before, in your examination, page 217) that " the Church of England and Baptists are about equal in number." Now, Sir, about the Baptists, by your own shewing, there can, as you would have it believed, be no doubt, for you say (same page) that Mr. Morrison's Chart gives a "full" account of them, they (and the Meihodists, as yon say,) kecping " accurate accounts" of all their societies, were able to furnish "specific information;" if then they, and the Church of England are as you say, "about equal," it would give to the Church of England about one fortieth part of the population, for Mr. Morrison's return, as "accurate account," and "specific information," from the Baptists, gives their number in his Chart at 5,740 . So that, in one place you say, it is "probable" the Church of England may amouut to one fifteenth, (you add "perhape one tenth,") or

And in another place, where you say she is "about equal" with the Baptists, you make her proportion only about one fort: eth, or
$5,000$.
Making a difference between your two statements of . . . $8,8,000$.
Will you pe pleased to explain which of the two you mean for the true one; but have a care that you do not get confused agnin.

These, Sir, are amazing differences, but I must take the liberty of pointing out a few more to you. There is no end of them; for what between thousands, and tens of thousands, and tenths, and fifteenths, and fortieths-there is a strange jumble of confusion; and you will perhaps wonder that any one chould have taken the trouble to unravel it; but Cocker has always been a favourite with me.-I know that with a little trouble, and some patience, he can put all these things to rights, and when I hear a person say that two and two make four "according to Cocker," I recognize him as a man of fact and figurcs. But to proceed-Let us see how you differ in your account of the Church of England from the stateuients made by others, before the Commit tee of our House of Assembly. The following table will shew this, for the correctness of which I refer you to the celebrated report of the Committee or the petition of Buckley Waters and others. 4
LNSWER to the Question-"What proportion, in your opinion, do the Members of the Church of Englam
Answered by in this Province bear to the uchole Population?"

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| Mr. Ryerson's Estimate. <br> "Equal to Baptists," | $\left\|\begin{array}{r} 11,111 \\ 5,740 \end{array}\right\|$ | $\left.\begin{array}{r} 11,111 \\ 5,740 \end{array} \right\rvert\,$ | $\left\|\begin{array}{r} 15,384 \\ 5,740 \end{array}\right\|$ | $\left\|\begin{array}{r} 10,000 \\ 5,740 \end{array}\right\|$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1,111 \\ & 5,740 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 33,333 \\ 5,740 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 20,000 \\ 5,740 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r\|} 8,000 \\ 5,740 \end{array}$ | 33,333 5,740 | 10,000 | 12,50 |
| frerence of statements, $\rightarrow$ \| $\sim_{5,371}$ |  | 5,871 | $9,644$ |  |  |  |  | 2.260 |  |  | 6,76 |

I have not room for more-but here are indeed great differences, and if th changes were rung on all the differences between differences, what an of figure would the account make: suffice it to say, that, between yours, an the statements in the table-the highest is 27,000, and the lowest 2,000 som
ink they are a fifamount to that, or thing to do withmination." Now, tions you seem to 1 before, in your Baptists are about ur own shewing, or you say (same fthem, they (and of all their sociey , and the Church to the Church of Morrison's return, he Baptists, gives ou say, it is "pro. h, (you

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| 00 | 33,333 | 10,000 | 12,50 |
| 40 | 5,740 | 5,740 | 5,7 |
| $60$ | 27,593 | 4,260 | 6,7 |

rences, and if th ces, what an od tween yours, ant owest 2,000 son

The avowed object of all this investigation was to elicit truth, but who will now say that it has been attained ? I do not wish io be understood as meaning to say that either yourself, or any of the gentlemer in the foregoing table, have wilfully stated what you knew to be untrue; but this I do not hesitate to say, that you, one and all, ventured opinions upon information, which, if you had given yourselves time to reflect, you must have discovered, was totally insufficient to form so important a record. The calculations I have mado shew this most clearly, and how very unsafe it is to depend upon "information," without heing ourselves satisfied of its correctness, is amply proved from the case of Dr. Lee, who, relying on such sources has fallen into the most glaring errors, or zather, has proclaimed to the world the most glaring errors, to call them by the mildest name, of persons (unknown) who, from their residence in Canada, can scarcely offer any reasonable excuse for those errors.

There aro two sensible answers given to the question, which could not find a place in the table.

Mr. Rolph-"I cannot say-I have never made such a calculation"-
Mr. Robinson-"I do not know, nor do I think any body else does."
On this point, one of these gentlemen has been consistent-the other has not-which of the two I mean will be seen hereufter.

The subject, now that there has been time for reflection, must be viewed by every candid mind as having been got up for party purposes, and the Report of the Committee on the petition of Buckley Waters and others, can be looked upon in no other light, than as having been the means of incurring a heavy expense to the Province, without answering aref good purpose-its contents could only go to mislead the people-to misleàd the British Government, and to injure particularly the Church of England, for it is not without errors with respect to others, an instance of which I think may be found in Mr. Morrison's Chart, where the Wesleyan Methodists are reckoned at 100 only.

I might go on to point out a great many more inconsistencies in your evi-dence-a few of them I shall endeavour to compress into as brief limits as I can.
$\mathbf{Y}_{\text {ou }}$ are asked, (at page 217) "Did many Presbyterians sign the Peti-tion?"-You promptly reply "Yes," and by way of introducing an individual to the notice of the Committee, you add, "some of the principal signers are Presbyterians-the chairman of the Committec, (Central) Mr. Ketchum, is one of the leading Presbyterians in Upper Canada." There is something ridiculously ostentatious in this unnecessary addition in your reply to the question. Soon after (same page) you are told by the Committee-"It is stated in Mr. Morrison's Letter, that the Presbyterians refused to join the petitioners generally"-you answer, "by that part, who are members of the Church of Scotland, the petition was not generally signed."-Now, what you mean by "generally," I am at a loss clearly to understand-perhaps you can explain, and give us an abstract shewing to what particular denomination the 8000 signatures to that petition belonged-you will be able perhaps to inform us, by means of the "specific information" of the pains taking Secretary of the Central Committec, that it was "generally" signed by one denomination, and that, neither Presbyterians of "different classes," nor "members of the Church of Scotland." Make what you will of it, Mr. Morrison and yourself are here at loggerheads. But with the next question, the cat comes out of the bag-"What do you attribute that to" (the Presbyterians of the Church of Scotland not joining in the petition?) -Ah! Mr. Ryerson, now for your answer-"They want to get half of the Clergy Reserves for thenselves !" Ingrate, that you must be: did not Mr. Morris, " one of the leading" members of the Church of Scotiand in Upper Canada, and in the Houso
of Aesembly, move and voto, that they should all be sold for general purposes. This is unkind of you, Mr. Ryerson, and looks as if you were suspicious of those among whose ranks you have been fighting-But you add, (and you very often make additions not called for) "the largest proportion of Presbyterians in Upper Canada I believe signed the general petition." Your sturdy "Yes," when first questioned on this part of the suljject, after a little cross-examination, dwindled down into modest "I believe." And here again, when you speak of the " largest" proportion of Presbyteriaus, it cannot pass unnoticed how completely you are at loggerheads with Dr. Lec.The difference between you, can only be accounted for by the supposition, that he considers all Presbyterians as members of the Church of Scotland, and that you do not consider members of the Church of Scotland as entitled to the appellation of Presbyterians-odd enough I confess.

When the crusade against the Clergy Reserves was first undertaken, how admirably you seemed to pull togethor, but now that time has developed the plans of each, it is pretty evident that your "friendship was but a name," and that though "generally" you are willing enough to pull down another church if you can, by any means, even by the most forced associations, you individually quarrel about the division of the spoil.
Your "object" you say was to vindicate several religious denomtnations. I take it, Sir, that you have misrepresented the Roman Catholics-you have confused "Presbyterians of different classes" and "memoers of the Church of Scotiand" in such a way as to mislead and perplex, rather than vindicato - you have misrepresented the Church of England-you have misrepresented 88,819 of our population, by declaring them not attached to any religious denomination, or in almost heathenish darkness. These things will not be called vindication by any reasonable man.
Mr. Morrison's Chart, you say, was compiled with much caro-ono omission which it makes is so remarkable, that I cannot forbear mentioning ithe has not given a place in it to Roman Catholics; and with respect to them I will venture an opinion: that, as a body compared with any other singly, there is every reason to suppose, your assertions to the contriry notwithstanding, and Mr. Morrison's sinking them altogether, they are as mumerous as any denomination-the Methodists not excepted. Had I been at your clbow in the Committee room when you was questioned as to this point, I would have reminded you of the thousands of Roman Catholics in the Eastern Dis-trict-the many in the Midland District (Kingston, with a large stone Church, and a large and respectable congregation)-the thousands again in the new Sctlements in the Newcastle District-the many in the Home Dis-trict-the large and respectable congregation at York, with a neat Churchthe many in the Townships near York-and the Western District, whose population in many parts of it, is chiefly Roman Catholic ; besidcs the numbers scattered in different parts of the country which I have not enumeratedAnd yct you tell the Committee that Mr. Morrison's Chart, got up under the superintendance of the "Central Committee"-"presents a very complete and fair view of the number of ministers and of the different religious denominations in Upper Canada"-"vcry complete and fair"-let us see-of Episcopalians it gives "no return"-Presbyterians "no return"-Kirk of Scotland "no return"-and Roman Catholics not so much as mentioned even by name as a religious denomination.
This is "very complete and fair" with a vengeance-perhaps you class the Roman Catholics, as another Mr. Ryerson has donc, anong the Heathen.

Again, (at page 218) spcaking of the Church of England, you say in positive terms-" iknow the number to be very small." 1 might ask you how you know this, that you take upon yourself to state it so positively. You admit (at page 220) that they may perhaps amount to one tenth-this on your
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Ex. Counci urveyor C eceiver $G$ Atorney G Eolicitor Adjutant G nspector $\mathbf{G}$ Legislative scmbly Of th and in ou evia ou do, The fact er" of were not church, tween " 44 by th passed; You s the test c assertion bis time only one In the
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aaps you class g the Heathen. ou say in posask you how ely. You ad--this on your
you must explain.

Again you say (page 218)-" the Congregations (Church of England) are generally very small (very small again--a favourite expression it seems, but a borrowed one, as I sball show by and by) "except in the Town of York, where there are a number of Government officers." Here you make an admission, that the York congregation is large; but then, you would have the Committee lelieve that the reason of its being large, is, that it is made up of a "uumber of Government officers."-What is the fact?-Talee the following enumeration of the Public Offices, and contradict it if yon can :-


Of these then, we have 34 Episcopalians, who attend the Church of Engand in York, and surely you do not call this "a number" in the sense which ou evidently use the term, to account for the congregation being large-if ou do, how do you account for your calling 20,000 a "very small number." The fact therefore is, that the congregation at York is large, and that the "numer" of Government officers, who from your representation, if this calculation vere not made, might have passed for a host, large enough of itself to fill the church, amounts to the enormous total of 34! Oh, Mr. Ryerson, what between "very small" and "number"--calling 20,000 by the former term, and 34 by the latter, you certainly exhibit a degree of inconsistency seldom surpassed; but you had an "object" in view.
You see how matters stand with you when your assertions are brought to the test of a little cool calculation, founded upon fact. Many others of your gissertions would, if brought to the same test, show the same result, but as by this time I fancy I can hear you cry-"spare me"-I shall at present mention anly one thing more.
In the resolutions of the House of Assembly in 1826, it is among other things "Resolved, That" the number of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this Province is a very small, (I promised to show you that "very small," was a zorrowed expression of yours) proportion to the number of other Christian de-tominations."-You are asked by the committee--"It appears that they (the ?esolutions) were moved by Mr. Rolph, is he a member of the Church of Ingland?"--You answer-"he is a member of the Church of England, educaed at Cambridge, and I believe a member of Lincoln's Inn"-There, I can ancy you saying to yourself, is a clencher for you gentlemen. But will you, can you, Mr. Ryerson, explain for Mr. Rolph, how it happens, that he could eriously propose this Resolution as matter of fact, when not long after, this me Mr. Rolph, when before a committee of the House of Assembly, being ked--". What proportion, in your opinion, do the members of the Church England bear to the whole population ?" -Mark Mr. Rolph's answer !-"I mnot say, I have never made such a calculation"!!
And yet, although on this occasion Mr. Rolph admits that he "never" d made such a calculation, had nevertheless moved, that it be resolved, and vas resolved accordingly, that the proportion is "very small." In the one e, his "npinion" only is asked, and he declines giving any opinion, be*se he had "never made such a calculation ;" and in the other, "never" ing made "such a calculation," he resolves it into matter of fact, to be emnly recorded on the procoedings of a crave doliberativa bodty fact, to be

I promised to point out to you a gentleman who had not been consistent on this subject. I have done so.

You introduce (page 219) the Alien Question into your evidence. dis if have been drawn to mention Mr. Rolph's name, and am asking you for exs planations on some points in which he ie concemed, perhaps you can exphiti to me who it is that Mr. Horton, under Sevetary of the Cclonies, alludes to when he says, (page 306)-" with respect to the conduct of the Colonial de partment, it is necessary to mention, that these irstructions (on the Alien Quns. tion) which Lord Bathurst sent out to the Colony, for the passing of a ival Bill, and which excited dissatisfaction, were megulations which had ate ceived the approbation of a memeer of the legislature, who was nici in this country, more or less in the character of an agent for the Prevince, tith resper' so certain griecances complained of." Rumour will have it, that "a member of the Church of England, educated at Cambridge, and \} bo lieve a member of Lincoln's Inn," is the person alluded to by Mr. Horton, as the "nember of the Legislature" and "Agent" who approved ce" $R$ Regu lations" in London, which he disapproved of elsewhere. There appears tt have been some collision botween the members of the Legislature and the "Agent;" but perhaps it is hardly fair to call upon you to give explanation of the inconsistericies of others, when so many of your own have been pointed out which require to be answered. Mr. Rolph will doubtless see thes remarks, and can, if he pleases, answer for himself.

1. you, Sir, are able to explain away what I have said on your ev: dence, or to contradict the remarks I have made upon it by any thing liki proof, you have an opportunity of doing so. That evidence now stund naked and exposed to the view of every man-if you decline saying ans, thin:g, do not indulge yourself with the idea, that your silence will be constri" ed into a dignity which will not condescend to a reply. You must stane convicted of inconsistencies the most glaring and absard.

CATMCULATOR.
Dec. 1829.
B. Fenguson, Princtr.i..Gore Baeance Oftice, Hamiiton, U. C.
peen consisten! on evidence. As sking you for ex: you can expluitu lonies, alludes in $f$ the Colonial ile on the Alien Quos. assing of a ival Ns which had ite fRe, who was ores for the Prevince, will have it, bridge, and 's be by Mr. Horton, roved c. "Regw There appears th egislature and the give explanation $n$ have been poinubtless see the
said on your ev: by any thing like ience now stand ecline saying an: ce will be constru You must stanc CULATORE.
ron, .U. C.


