

a renewal of your ministry—a consummation not un-  
 encouraged by the high and sanguine aspirations of a hope,  
 which even a legitimate deference to authority does not  
 exclude,—yet we assure your Reverence that wherever  
 your steps may be directed, our affections and esteem  
 will ever accompany you; and that neither in the acts  
 nor language of this Parish, at any time, will you find cause  
 to feel regret at your connection with those whom you  
 now leave, either as a gentleman, or as a Priest of our  
 Holy Church.

### THE REPLY.

MY DEAR FRIENDS,

THE address now before me, emanating from so large  
 and so influential a portion of the inhabitants of the City  
 of Halifax—containing so many sentiments of warm af-  
 fection and earnest regret—dictated by the impulse of  
 noble and generous hearts, and conveyed in so kind and  
 complimentary a manner, is at once worthy of the high  
 character for generosity and benevolence so universally  
 earned, and so unanimously conceded to the natives and  
 descendants of the Emerald Isle; and would prove a source  
 of high gratification and honest pride to any man, no  
 matter how exalted his station. Grateful, then, must I feel,  
 in thus becoming the object of your respect and esteem,  
 while conscious of having done nothing to merit either,  
 unless that which the duties of his sacred calling renders  
 so incumbent on the minister of the Gospel. It is only  
 one proof more that efforts, however humble, will be ap-  
 preciated by a people, the depth of whose religious feel-  
 ing draws a veil over the defects of the minister, and ren-