

and religious intolerance, until I make them so familiar to the universal mind as to leave your conduct what it ought to be—the honest contempt and the sorrowful scorn of all sincere and charitable Christians.

Your fifth charge exceeds the rest in malignant atrocity, as well as in unqualified falsehood. You accuse me, and with me other Catholics, of *PERJURY*, in violating the oath taken by Catholic Members of Parliament.

Shameless calumniators! I defy you. You cannot specify in what such violation consists. But vindication from so foul a charge is superfluous. It is a charge which can only injure the Reverend Riggs, the Woods, and the Chappells—an unlucky combination of names—who have the frontless audacity to make it.

There is, indeed, a historic proof, written in letters of blood, amidst the annals of crime, confiscation and persecution; annals such as you, Messrs. Rigg, Wood and Chappell, naturally gloat over; there is, I say, the glorious and unfading proof of the reverence of Catholics for the sacred obligation of an oath. It is this: that so conscious were their malignant enemies of that sacred reverence, that the only process they used to deprive the Catholics of these countries of all civil rights, of all offices, rank, honors and emoluments, in the state, nay, and often of their lives on the scaffold! was the mere obtruding of an oath which the Catholics could not conscientiously take. The Catholics, *victims for three centuries to their abhorrence of perjury*, sacrificing their properties, their franchises, their liberties, their lives, rather than violate the sanctity of an oath—these Catholics are now—

But no! I turn with contemptuous disregard from your foul, as well as foolish, charge, and leave you to answer it to your consciences (if such things be,) and to the God who is to judge you as well as me for an eternity of well or of wo; and before whom hypocritical pretensions, imaginative self-justification, rancorous intolerance, will appear in their natural colors, and leave no room for paltry excuse, or wretched subterfuge.

Wesleyan Methodists!—You began this controversy—you shrank from maintaining the ground which you yourselves had chosen. You substituted personal calumny and personal abuse