

an imperative duty is incumbent on us : this duty is to indicate to all the faithful under our jurisdiction, and whose consciences we have to direct, the only line of conduct to be followed in the present elections.

Should we, first of all, remind you, dearly beloved brethren, how noble and important is the right bestowed upon you by the constitution in designating for office the depositaries of public power ? Every citizen worthy of the name, every Canadian who loves his country, who wishes it to be great, peaceful and prosperous, should interest himself in its government.

Now, the government of our country, of a people still young, but capable of occupying a distinguished place among the nations, will be what you will make it yourselves by your choice and by your votes.

That is to say, dearly beloved brethren, as a general rule, and save rare exceptions, it is a duty of conscience for every citizen to vote : a duty all the more grave and pressing as the questions disputed are important and may exercise over your destinies an influence more or less decisive.

That is to say, again, you should vote as honest, wise, enlightened and intelligent christians.

Avoid then, dearly beloved brethren, the deplorable excesses against which we frequently warned you ; perjury, intemperance, lying, calumny, violence and party spirit, which warp the judgment and produce a kind of voluntary obstinate blindness.

Do not sell your vote. To vote is a duty, and duty is not sold. Give not your vote to the first comer, but to him