

portion of the lower classes must be comparatively ignorant, and uninformed on political questions; but, for argument's sake, strike out of the calculation every Canadian who can neither read nor write; and set against those of the Canadians who are educated, well-informed, enlightened, and learned; those of the Scotch and Irish, who are so; the proportion will still be inconceivably small, numerically; and I am quite sure the warmest advocates of the union will not have the temerity to set in competition, with the classical, literary, and liberal, education which is so general amongst the upper ranks of the French; the disciples of Cocker, the shop-boys; the uneducated and ignorant rustics, from which our Scotch great folks have arisen to be legislators and politicians; pretenders who know nothing but their native tongue, (and that most defectively,) and therefore, with a spirit of Vandallism, worthy of the barren highlands whence they sprung, desire to put down all other languages. But this belongs to another part of the argument; and I have been prematurely hurried into it by the strong conviction of my feelings on the subject, and the sovereign contempt in which I hold the intellectual and acquired abilities of these political Quixottes. I will dismiss this head with the observation, in reply to what has fallen from Z. on the subject, that it is not to British, but to English customs that the world is indebted for freedom and elevation of literature.

On the second head, I remark that Z. takes it for granted that no restraint upon religious opinion, nor any controul in the exercise of religious worship, will be introduced; but the question is not whether such will be introduced; but whether they may, or can follow the measures that are wished to be adopted. That a material innovation in the discipline of the church of Rome was in contemplation, I have made evident in my last number, and that other covert attempts of the same kind, would be made, if this first succeeded; there can exist no doubt. To those therefore, to whom their religion is dear, it is most essential that they should keep guard at the avenues that may lead to its destruction. I am a staunch protestant, I have been bred up with a great antipathy towards both the doctrines and the ceremonies of the church of Rome; the convictions of my later years have confirmed my objection to its creed, and have more indelibly fixed me to that of the reformed church; I know therefore I should, with jealous care, endeavour to guard against whatever would tend to destroy the protestant religion, and disable the professors of it from enjoying that liberty of conscience, which is the peculiar birthright of every British subject. Hence I think that each man who, along with attachment to his own religion, possesses that spirit of toleration, which is essential both to the christian and the politician, ought to praise, rather than blame, the Canadian catholics, for feeling alarm, and