

testant members only, notwithstanding the seeming hardship of it arising from the great superiority of the numbers of the Roman-Catholick inhabitants, which naturally strikes people at first sight, and is apt to lead them into a contrary opinion, while they continue strangers to the condition of the province, and are ignorant of those peculiar circumstances attending it, which have been just now described.

And, as the English inhabitants were of opinion, that the establishment of a protestant assembly was a safe or practicable measure, that would not disgust the body of the Canadian freeholders in the province, (provided they were permitted to elect members into the assembly, though not to be elected into it,) they made not the least difficulty of thinking, that it would also be a wise or politick measure, because they were convinced that it would gradually operate as an inducement to such of the Roman-Catholick inhabitants of the province, as were not very strongly attached to the church of Rome, to abandon its erroneous doctrines, and embrace the protestant religion; and that, with respect even to those of them who were most zealous in the belief of the Romish religion, it might prove a means of engaging them to examine the foundations of it with freedom, which could hardly fail of producing  
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