

PREFACE.

At a meeting of the Orangemen of the District of Toronto, (held, according to notice, on the 29th May, 1855,) at which were present, the Grand Master, the County Master of York, several Masters of Lodges, and other Grand Officers and Members of the Institution, a resolution was *unanimously* carried, requesting me to furnish to a Committee, (to be immediately appointed,) the manuscript of the discourse which I had preached on the Queen's Birth-day, at the Richmond Hill Railway Station, in order that it might be printed and published by the Institution. In this request—expressed in most polite and flattering language—and proceeding from so high a channel—I felt it my *duty* to acquiesce.

But the sermon having been delivered *extemporaneously*, and no portion of it having been previously committed to paper, excepting the *mere heads* of the subject, I have been obliged to reduce it to writing, from the notes of a Reporter, who happened to be present when it was preached, and by the aid of a memory by no means the most faithful.

Should, however, the proofs and arguments herein adduced, be the means of awakening an investigation amongst Romanists, into the absurd and unscriptural doctrines and practices of their religion; of staying, amongst *professing* Protestants, those who are *wavering* in their profession of allegiance to their Sovereign, and of "strengthening those who do stand," I shall consider myself more than re-paid for the time and study which its preparation has involved.

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June 2nd, 1855.