

freely worshipping the Almighty, in the way which their reason dictated, as most acceptable to a Perfect, and Infinite Being.

Toleration, in this respect, has, I flatter myself, been effected to the full extent of their wishes; as the people of that persuasion, are now at liberty to erect places of public worship; also to choose a person, such as they approve of to officiate as their minister; likewise to enter into agreements and stipulations with their Ministers, with the terms of which the Law will enforce a compliance, according to the true intent and meaning of the parties thereto.

To enable you thoroughly to understand my ideas of the indulgencies granted to the Roman Catholics in this Province, I think it unnecessary to refer you to any other book, than the Statute Law of the Land, in which you will see, that by the 2d and 5th Acts of the General Assembly, which met in this Province in the 32d year of His late Majesty's reign, the Roman Catholic Religion was totally prohibited, and those professing it, disabled from holding Lands, except by Grant from the Crown.

Many of those persons are yet living, who can remember the causes of this very severe prohibition; but time having blunted mens' feelings on this subject, the General Assembly with a wish to bury the whole in oblivion, passed the Acts of 23d. Geo. 3d. Cap. 9th, and 26th Geo. 3d. Cap. 1st. which having received His Majesty's assent, the prohibitions contained in the two former Acts, were upon certain conditions and stipulations, repealed and modified: And on these

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