

have been liable if the Quebec bill had never passed ; and the law of England has still in store punishments fully sufficient to deter the most zealous Catholic of Canada from the commission of such an offence.

Since then your Lordship has been so very severe in your strictures on this part of the Quebec bill, let me again implore you to tell us what plan you yourself would recommend. Would you now construe the *free exercise* of religion to be less than the Canadians thought it when they threw themselves upon your faith ? Would you now become their persecutor ? Or would you still suffer them to enjoy their religion, with its consequential property ; but enjoy it not by the constitutional authority of an act of parliament, but by virtue of an actual exercise