

INJUSTICE DONE TO THE CATHOLICS OF KINGSTON BY THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

The trend of Our subject naturally leads Us to the consideration of a greivous injustice perpetrated from year to year upon the Catholics of the City of Kingston by our Municipal Council. There are two Protestant institutions in the city—the Protestant Hospital and the Protestant House of Industry—corresponding in their main purpose with our Catholic Hospital and our House of Providence. They are private institutions, maintained, as ours are, by the charitable offerings of individuals, supplemented by grants from the Provincial Governments. They have on their side most of the wealth of the city, and have, from time to time, been recipients of immensely large bequests and donations. We have on our side only a minority of the population, who are, as a whole, the less affluent section of citizens. And yet the Municipal Corporation of Kingston annually take from the fund derived from Protestant and Catholic taxes alike, a sum of \$1,500 and hand it over to the two Protestant institutions, whilst they give not one dollar or cent to either of the Catholic institutions that exist solely for the relief of the poor, who have a natural and divine right to support from the public. Nay, they even impose a tax of so much per gallon on the water taken through the public pipe from Lake Ontario by the Hotel Dieu and the Providence for the drink of the sick and poor, and the washing of their linen. The amount of tax for water charged last year against the sick citizens receiving care in the Hotel Dieu, and compulsorily paid out of the alms contributed in their favor, is \$184.24; the water tax charged against the alms supplied for the food and clothing and general maintenance of the 129 aged and infirm poor creatures, and the 55 orphans in the House of Providence last year, is \$127.55. We have been told that the pretext for thus discriminating against the poor and the sick in charge of the Religious Sisters is because the Protestant institutions are non-sectarian and ours are sectarian; and last summer We listened with interest to an address publicly delivered by one of the Governors