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The majority of the Assembly have endeavoured to represent the question of the present concession of responsible government, as one subsisting solely between themselves and the council. It is, on the contrary, a question between the council, the Protestant minority of the Assembly, and the Protestant majority of the people on one side, and the Roman Catholic minority of the people on the other, a question raised by the attempt on the part of the Roman Catholic minority to maintain and perpetuate in the Assembly, and consequently (under responsible government), in the Local Government, an ascendency to whi h they are not entitled, whether as regards their numbers, their wealth, or their intelligence.

It is a religious question solely, as is manifest—from the character of the divisions in the Assembly when the Representative Bill was under consideration, the Protestants, (with one exception), voting always on one side, and the Roman Catholics on the other; from the addresses of the Law and Commercial Societies in answer to Earl Gray's despatch of January, 1852, and from the opinions of the Local Press; from the admissions of the Roman Catholic members themselves; from the letter of Dr. Mulluck, the Roman Catholic Bishop, to Mr. Little, under date of the 7th February, 1852; from the numerous petitions got up in answer to the appeal from the Protestant Committee, constituted in St. John's at the very time that the Duke of Newcastle's despatch was on its way to the colony; from the constant and active interference of the Roman Catholic Clergy at contested elections; from the fact that the Roman Catholic majority of the assembly have repeatedly rejected a bill brought in for the purpose of giving a member to the exclusively Protestant district of Bruges and La Poile—a district, which although containing a population computed at over 3000, and returning to the