

say here, and I take my stand on that declaration, that it is more to the advantage and interest of Irish Catholics as a class to support a *Protestant Liberal* than a *Catholic* who supports the Conservative Government. There is none less worthy of your support than he who claims it solely on religious grounds. He should also have other passports to your favour. He should have education, he should have ability, in a word, he should have a record to point to. Better, a thousand times better, to be *unrepresented*, than *misrepresented*.

In taking this ground I may observe that I am following the example set by the venerable Bishop of Kingston, at the last Ontario election, when, as I have been credibly informed, he enunciated the liberal policy of recommending his clergy, and through them their flocks, to vote for a *Protestant Conservative* in East Peterborough in preference to an *Irish Catholic Liberal*. Mr. O'Donohoe, whose private character is unimpeachable, and who, in my humble opinion, is one of the most devoted and most disinterested, one of the best, purest and truest of Irish Catholics in this Dominion, and to whose character the poet's description of Grattan is justly applicable—

"Ever glorious Grattan! the best of the good,
So simple in heart, so sublime in the rest!
With all that Demosthenes wanted endued,
And his rival or victor in all he possessed.

"Ere Tully arose in the zenith of Rome,
Though unequal'd, preceded, the task was begun—
But Grattan sprung up like a god from the tomb
Of age, the first, last, the saviour, the one!

"With the skill of an Orpheus to soften the brute;
With the fire of Prometheus to kindle mankind;
Even Tyranny, listening, sate melted or mute,
And Corruption shrunk scorch'd from the glance of his mind."
BYRON.

I say that Mr. O'Donohoe could only be opposed by that revered prelate on account of his political principles. For my own part I hail with pleasure this course—that every one of the bishops will support, on public grounds, that political party to whose keeping the public interests are, in his opinion, best entrusted, and I sincerely hope that the hierarchy will not object to the Catholic laity exercising a similar discretion, that an Irish Catholic Liberal will support a Liberal, whether he be a Catholic or Protestant, and that there shall no longer be questions of religion mixed up with politics.

I have no fear but the Liberal party will give Irish Catholics a fair representation in their ranks. I have it from Mr. O'Donohoe's own lips that there was not a Protestant Liberal in East Peterborough voted against him, notwithstanding the industrious circulation of "Fenian" conspiracies and other infamous falsehoods, and that he lost his election for want of time to enable him to contradict false statements circulated amongst his co-religionists