

and armies, by which it is defended, they are a source of considerable wealth to the community; the executive government is another channel through which it derives a revenue, and the trade of the colony is vivified by the capitals of the mother country.—In religion it is equally happy. The Church of England, which is the religion of the British Government, and of an immense majority of British subjects, is the Church by law established, by the free consent of the Province, expressed in the act of its legislature, in its first general assembly \*. And every other persuasion is allowed free liberty of conscience, and the uninterrupted exercise of public worship, according to their several opinions.

This excellent system of toleration was admirably seconded by the liberality of mind, and the good sense of the inhabitants. The most perfect harmony prevailed among the members of the different congregations. No man condemned, or thought ill of his neighbour for his religious opinions. The golden age of the Prophet seemed to be realized; the wolf dwelt in concord with the lamb, and the leopard lay down in friendly society with the kid.

Every attempt to disturb this universal tranquillity, to sow the seeds of discord, to dissolve the bonds of charity, and to set man against his fellow for a mere difference of sentiment in religious matters, deserves the execration of

\* Perpetual Acts of the General Assembly of Nova-Scotia, 3 George 2d, chap. v. 1758.

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