

PREFACE.



In a free country where every man has the right to profess the creed which he finds most congenial to his conscience, we see no reason why a Catholic should be hunted down, for availing himself of the privilege which every sectarian in the land enjoys.

The desertion of the Hon. John Elmsley from the Church of England, and his embracing the doctrine of the Catholic Church, has raised such an alarm among protestants of all denominations in this city, that it appears to be the tocsin for those, of the most jarring and discordant dogmas to rally round their divided fabric, and bring their united artillery to bear upon Mr. Elmsley; not satisfied with the "triumphant and gentlemanlike" answer of the Venerable Archdeacon of Toronto, they must pour upon him, the most scurrilous and billingsgate abuse from the kennel of the Courier, which is, however, far beneath the notice of any man of character to answer; and as if this were not enough, they quote in the first number of the poor man's preservative against Popery, "the *excellent* observations" of the Christian Guardian upon the subject of Transubstantiation, although the creed of the Ryersonians and that of the Church of England, agree only in hatred against Catholics.

Their long catalogue of calumnies, so often refuted, disavowed, and disclaimed by Catholics, their enemies with insatiate rancour still continue to pour out against them.

• As their principal hope however of overwhelming the influence of the Catholic Religion, seems to rest in the publication of that super-eminent production, Blanco White's poor