

It is high time, my fellow Protestants, for us to assume in our own defence, and in behalf of our Catholic fellow subjects, a position of firm and fearless antagonism to the encroachments of the Papacy. And where can we better seek the rock of our stability than in that blessed Book of Books to which we owe the revival of our faith, the conservation of our language, the refinement of our literature, the maintenance of our liberties, and the melioration of our laws?

“The glory of the Catholic Church,” says Montalembert, “is to bend herself with an *indefatigable flexibility* to the institutions, the manners, the ideas of all countries and of all ages.” Let us watch well her sinuous advances. And let us evince to her that our glorying is not in the “wisdom of this world,” but in an unwearied and unbending resolve to bring all institutions, all customs, all ideas, to the test of the Gospel of the Son of God.