

oral college of the whole Dominion consists of about 400,000, of whom we form about an eighth, scattered, as already remarked, in various proportions throughout all the constituencies. It is within the limits of safety to assume that we can determine in one-half of the whole Dominion, or 100 constituencies, who shall be their representatives, and therefore the complexion and constitution of the Government, for we hold the balance of power between rival and contending parties. This should be a most favourable position to occupy. Let us then learn to employ it judiciously, let us learn to wield it advantageously, and we shall be courted and sought after, instead of being despised as in the past. We have one of the elements of success (numbers), let us emulate with one another to cultivate the other. We are now like a vast hydraulic power, going to waste for want of its application to useful purposes. We are the arbiters of our own destiny. This is patent to the plainest understanding. If this is so, am I not justified in attributing our present lamentable position to our own apathy or mismanagement—to our own divisions and disregard of the common interest.

But if in one constituency or one province our people support one political party, and in another a different one, we neutralize our own strength, we thereby constitute in the political sphere a balanced force, which may be entirely removed or overlooked without affecting the statical equilibrium of the whole structure. Therefore to have our power felt and effectual for good, it must be thrown into one scale. I have endeavoured to show that this scale is the Liberal one. If you agree with me, and I am at a loss to know how you can rationally reject my conclusions: then to carry these out successfully there is but one course to pursue—to support with your vote and influence the avowed candidates of the Liberal party. To do this you must cast aside all considerations of personal likes and dislikes, you must dismiss questions of personal favours and obligations, for as I have previously said, if you desire your principles to succeed, it is not done by supporting those who are opposed to them. You should interrogate every candidate. His answer should be plain, intelligible, conclusive and satisfactory on the main question, *whether he will, if elected, support the Government or the Opposition.* Let there be no evasion or room for equivocation on this point, and if he is not to your entire satisfaction and beyond reasonable doubt with the Liberal party, it is your duty to reject, however much you may personally respect, him. For we should always bear in mind that it is not for the individual we vote but for the party of which he is a member. It is the veriest nonsense to say that you do not wish to see Orangeism in power if you support its supporters. Let this be your first question, because it is the most vital, the most important to the amelioration of your position, to the elevation of your class. I