

ARCH-BISHOP LYNCH

3929

"Premier of Ontario"

UNMASKED.

To The Protestants of The Province of Ontario :

SOME of you have doubtless observed in the *Montreal Witness* and in the *Toronto Mail*, the discussion which has lately taken place over the appointment of a Registrar for the County of Peterborough. In reply to the letters of Messrs. Muncaster and Kelly, I wrote to both papers, but both declined to publish my letter, the *Witness* giving as a reason, that it would injure the Reform party. The editor of the *Mail*, Martin Griffin, a Roman Catholic, probably felt that in publishing my first letters he had sufficiently sacrificed his religious feelings to party zeal, and therefore refused to publish a further *expose* of the policy of his co-religionists.

I endeavoured to get my first letter published in the *Globe*, but was not at all surprised at my failure to do so, as its editor, Timothy W. Anglin, also a Roman Catholic, would not be very likely to censure his party leader, Mr. Mowat, for giving a fat office to a Roman Catholic, even if he did not deserve it. Many of my friends in Peterborough feeling this to be too important a matter to be allowed to drop, and believing that the re-publication of my letters, might have some effect in opening the eyes of Protestants to the dangerous ascendancy which the Roman Catholic Bishops and Priests have acquired in the conduct of public affairs, have requested me to allow the former letters as well as that one which the *Witness* and *Mail* declined to receive—to be published in pamphlet form. I do so as a duty, believing it to be eminently necessary that the truth should be brought home to every Protestant that our country has been ruled and is now being ruled, not by the Reform or Conservative party, but by the Roman Catholic party, through their Bishops and Priests, and that if a determined and united effort is not speedily made by all Protestants, irrespective of party to check the rapid growth of Romish power, our noble Province must at no distant day be ground under the heel of a Roman Catholic despotism.

Protestants! let us awake to the danger of the situation, and at the next election, dropping all party lines, let us unite to return a Government pledged to oppose *Priestly* interference in politics, and thereby show that we, as Protestants, both can and will insist that our country shall be ruled by the people's representatives and not by the emissaries of the Pope.

I remain

Yours respectfully,

BERNARD McLEOD.

Peterborough, April, 1884.