

tyranny should be one day atoned for; surely such cruelty, such villany, such unexampled barbarity, such desolating and unheard of spoilation; in a word, such a continual and almost uninterrupted chain of devastating usurpation as Ireland then suffered, cannot be without a cause, nor such cruelties without a crime. Listen then, my brethren, in order that you may learn the magnitude of her crime in the heinousness of her offence. The first charge is that of high treason, because that faith which she received from her forefathers, and which the Apostle of Christ brought into her land, she resolved to maintain with the last drop of her blood, and expire in pronouncing the sacred tenets which support its basis. And now contemplate the greatness of her crime, since this is her only treason. What threats, what pains, what cruelties and carnage, has she not undergone, in order that she might be uncatholicized: but the sons of Ireland disregarded the threats of man, while she kept inviolable the laws of God, and the maxims of the Gospel of Jesus Christ; and it is thus that the love of religion was soon termed high treason, by her faithless sister, and so faithlessly was she persecuted as such. If she exhorted her children to keep unbroken the faith of Christ and the religion of their fathers, it is then, oh! yes, it is then she was denounced as a traitor, and her children were called rebels to the State; in those days, were a catholic to endeavour to protect his property, he might expect to be prosecuted as a murderer or a midnight robber; because to be a Catholic, was to be persecuted, despoiled, deprived of all property and confidence, and to be a mere Catholic was to suffer death, by the meanest vagrant whose hardened feelings encouraged him to do so. Ask not then, my brethren, the cause why Ireland suffered so much: behold in this the extent of all her faults and the enormity of her most heinous crimes; and to deny one