

that the discussions which are being carried on in the public journals and at public meetings are more calculated to intensify than to allay the prevailing bitterness of feeling; and yet, though I am most anxious to do all in my power to restore harmony, I am far from certain that in trying to do so, I shall have any better success than those whose writings appear to me calculated to increase the irritation which already exists. Of one thing I am clear, which is that no good end will be served by withholding the plain truth through fear of giving offence. A wise physician commences by making a diagnosis of his case before he considers how a cure is to be effected. I have read a great deal of what has been written with reference to the recent unfortunate occurrence in Montreal, not only in Canadian, but in foreign newspapers, and I must acknowledge that, in my judgment, there is a total want of appreciation of the cause that has led to a calamity, which was, on its occurrence, almost universally deplored by the citizens of Montreal. Though most anxious to avoid anything approaching to controversial discussion, I can hardly explain satisfactorily my own view of the case without referring to that taken by others. In the late article in the French column of the *Montreal Witness*, entitled "La Question Brulante," it is stated "We comprehend that it must be disagreeable to the Irish to see perpetuated the memory of the battle of the Boyne in Ireland, where the Dutch William of Orange beat the Roman Catholics." The writer adds, and most assuredly cannot be charged with want of zeal in the cause of the Protestant religion, "it would be wiser if the Orange society did not exist, or that it took another name, and adopted another color than orange." I have read in many newspapers, as well as in the sermon of the Rev. Mr. Doudiet, a similar expression of opinion that the cause of offence to Irish Roman Catholics is the celebration of the anniversary of the battle of the Boyne. I believe that those who entertain this opinion are under a complete delusion, from which it is most desirable that they should be freed. Irish Roman Catholics would never have resented the celebration of an ordinary victory, but the Battle of the Boyne was the first of a series of victories which led to the complete subjugation of