

to arouse within your breasts jealousies and deadly animosities towards your Protestant fellow-citizens?

I will not for a moment say that no instance of injustice has ever been perpetrated by Protestant individuals or governments on Romanists. I believe there have been many. But I will say, and defy successful contradiction, that all such have been in direct opposition to true and legitimate Protestantism—which inculcates *the doing to others as we would they should do unto us*—and the better understanding of which is working a firmer basis for all objects of truth and liberty. This we write of the Protestant world generally, but what may we not say of Quebec and Montreal? Have Romanists been treated by their Protestant neighbours otherwise than kindly and respectfully? Certainly not; and give to Protestants the rights they freely concede to you, and such will continue to be their treatment of you.

You objected to the coming of Gavazzi to lecture in Quebec and Montreal; and because he did come, you raised a riot—at once disgraceful and deadly. Did Protestants thus treat Dr. Brownson? Does not their conduct contrast most honorably for themselves and Protestantism, when viewed by the side of yours? We are compelled to cast the odium of the riot upon you, because we hold that *every man is morally responsible for whatever evils are perpetrated which he had the power to prevent*. You, especially aided as you ought to have been by your clergy, could have prevented the whole, but you did not; which, taken together with the fact that no becoming denunciations have yet come from your press, your priests, or your laity, forces us to lay the whole at your doors.* The time has come, be assured of it, when on all matters affecting our individual or public interests, a larger amount of independence of thought and action is imperative upon Roman Catholics as well as Protestants; and that our conduct should be regulated more by *a sense of personal responsibility both to God and man* than it has been heretofore. The doing wrong

* How forcible is this conclusion especially when viewed in the light of more recent doings.