

Hastings, have made representations in letters, which will be given in the appendix to this report. The Catholics constitute at least a fifth of the whole population of Upper Canada. Their loyalty was most generally and unequivocally exhibited at the late outbreak. Nevertheless it is said they are wholly excluded from all share in the government of the country and the patronage at its disposal. "In Upper Canada," says Mr. Manahan, "there never was one Irish Roman Catholic an Executive or Legislative Councillor; nor has one ever been appointed to any public situation of emolument and profit in the colony."

The Irish Catholics complain very loudly and justly of the existence of Orangeism in this colony. They are justly indignant that, in a province which their loyalty and bravery have materially contributed to save, their feelings are outraged by the symbols and processions of this association. It is somewhat difficult to understand the nature and the objects of the rather anomalous Orangeism of Upper Canada. Its members profess to desire to uphold the Protestant religion, but to be free from those intolerant feelings towards their Catholic countrymen which are the distinctive marks of the Irish Orangemen. They assert, that the main object to which the support of the English church is subsidiary, is to maintain the connection with Great Britain. They have sworn many ignorant Catholics into their body; and at their public dinners, after drinking the "pious, glorious, and immortal memory," with all the usual formality of abuse of the Catholics, they toast the health of the Catholic Bishop, M'Donnell. It would seem that their great purpose has been to introduce the machinery, rather than the tenets, of Orangeism, and the leaders probably hope to make use of this kind of permanent conspiracy and illegal organization to gain political power for themselves. In fact, the Catholics scarcely appear to view this institution with more jealousy than the reformers of the prov-

ince. It is an Irish Tory institution, having not so much a religious as a political bearing. The Irish Catholics who have been initiated have entered chiefly from its supposed national character, and probably with as little regard to the political objects with which it is connected. Still the organization of this body enables its leaders to exert a powerful influence over the populace; and it is stated that, at the last general election, the Tories succeeded in carrying more than one seat by means of the organised mob thus placed at their disposal. It is not, indeed, at the last election only that the success of the government candidates has been attributed to the existence of this association. At former elections, especially those for the county of Leeds, it is asserted that the return of the Canadian deputy-grand-master, and of the then attorney-general, his colleague, was procured by means of a violent and riotous mob of Orangemen, who prevented the voters in the opposition interest from coming up to poll. In consequence of this and other similar outrages, the Assembly presented an address to Sir F. Head, begging "that His Excellency would be pleased to inform the house whether the government of the province had taken or determined to take any steps to prevent or discourage public processions of Orange societies, or to discourage the formation and continuance of such societies." To this address the Governor made the following reply:—"The government of this province has neither taken, nor determined to take, any steps to prevent or discourage the formation or the continuance of such societies." It is to be presumed that this answer proceeded from a disbelief of the truth of those charges of outrage and riot which were made the foundation of the address. But it can excite no surprise that the existence of such an institution, offending one class by its contemptuous hostility to their religion, and another by its violent opposition to their politics, and which had been sanctioned by the governor, as was con-

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