

As a Protestant—which I profess to be—I do not address you because I believe that any circumstance by which Protestants in this province could be affected are such as to compel a servile submission to their Roman Catholic fellow-countrymen; nor even to constrain them for a moment to pause in asserting and maintaining their rights. *To assert them they will, no matter when, where, or how; and to maintain them they are prepared, be the cost what it may. British Protestants will never make slaves; nor tamely submit to be made such.* This I write calmly and considerately, and could I believe Protestants otherwise minded, I would despise and renounce alike them and their principles.

While I wish every Roman Catholic to receive this, I feel authorized to demand its admission by referring to our antecedents, even from the time that we were compelled to assume the distinctive appellation of PROTESTANT to the present. *Protestantism* is but another name for LIBERTY. Liberty to all who are capable of enjoying its blessings, and using them without detriment to his neighbour, of whatever rank or profession; and any instance in which this principle has been imperfectly exemplified, we do not hesitate to say, it has been no less a compromise of its character than it may have been injurious to those on whom the failure has fallen.

Our position is high and impregnable, as, pointing to the civilized world, we ask—Have not Roman Catholics infinitely better treatment from Protestants in countries where they predominate, than Protestants have from Roman Catholics where they rule? yea, have not Roman Catholics better institutions, greater freedom of action, and vastly more comfort and security under Protestant Governments than under their own, not excepting that of the Pope? This, I aver to be a fair appeal, and inasmuch as the obvious difference arises from the legitimate influence of the principles which we severally avow, is it not a reason why Catholics should fully and confidently co-operate with Protestants in working out what is so divine, because so fair and equitable; and at once to silence every unprincipled scribbler, who, for nefarious purposes, endeavours through the public prints