

To improve and secure the happiness of mankind, is the most distinguished privilege of Legislation, and is certainly that to which the British Legislature is the most attached: from the British Legislature, therefore, the Province of Quebec has every thing to hope. It need not resort to auxiliary arguments: it need not refer to the royal assurance afforded by His Majesty's Proclamation of 1763; *but, stating itself to be a part of the British Empire, it may confidently bring forward its claims to the enjoyment of British rights.*

Whether the Bill now depending does extend to the Province of Quebec the secure enjoyment of British rights, is the question to which we propose to address ourselves with that respect which is due to the opinions of those who have sanctioned the Bill with their approbation, and with that frankness