

fair share in the management of public affairs in that section of the Dominion. Reverse the disposition of the Catholic vote, and then note the difference in our favour. Parties would then stand.

Liberals—Protestants,	90,000	
“ Catholics	20,000	110,000

Tories—Protestants,	65,000	
“ Catholics,	5,000	70,000

Majority for Liberals	40,000
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By this means our claims to a fair distribution would be increased fourfold. I doubt not but this would secure sixty out of the eighty-eight seats to the Reform party, out of which the Catholics could fairly claim ten. Would not this be a new and happy phase in our colonial history. Yet it is quite feasible, and of easy realization if we do our duty. For our support of five thousand we have received in return a Minister of the Crown and two or three members of parliament, if we quadruple that support it is a question of simple proportion to calculate our gain by securing us ten members. This proportion is not unfair, for the most sanguine claimed only 42 out of 82 members for the Liberal party. At last election our support was one to nineteen, so that we fared wonderfully well.

To give effect to this object I would respectfully suggest to the Chairman and Executive Committee of the *Catholic League*—the only representative organization of the Catholic laity of Ontario,—to call by circular or otherwise a meeting of leading Catholics from the various sections of the province, to deliberate on this important subject, to select, from amongst them, gentlemen qualified to be put forward as candidates and to appoint a committee to confer with a like number of the leaders of the Reform party for the purpose of giving effect to this proposition, and determining the constituencies where Catholic candidates may be run.

CONCLUSION.

In bringing to a conclusion this trespass on your time, this trial on your patience, permit me to assure you that I have been actuated but by one motive—the public good in general, and your good in particular. I shall now consign the matter to your arbitrament; I shall shift the responsibility to your own shoulders, and only add that if this paper shall, even in a remote degree, be instrumental in elevating our political status or ameliorating the condition of our people in this country, it will have answered a useful purpose, and I shall feel amply repaid for the time and labour its production has cost me, my greatest regret being my incompetency to do the subject that justice, which should be expect-