

and were only deterred from doing so by false alarms spread amongst them by their superiours concerning the dangers to which their religion would be exposed if they were to join with the English in any publick representation whatsoever. The passage of the letter of my correspondents, in which they relate this important fact, is so remarkable, that I beg leave to transcribe the very words of it. They are as follows. “ In justice to the bulk of
 “ the Canadian inhabitants, who have formerly smarted under the rigour of the
 “ French government, and the caprice of petty tyrants of those days, we must confess that they prefer infinitely English law,
 “ which secures their liberty and property, and gives a free scope to their industry, and
 “ dread falling again under the laws and customs of Canada. This we declare upon
 “ our own certain knowledge, as very great numbers throughout the province have
 “ offered to join us in petitioning for the continuance of English laws, and disavowing their consent, privity, or knowledge of
 “ the petition which was sent hence last year in their names, though signed only by a
 “ few persons in the province. But when we had prepared a paper, at their desire, for
 “ them to sign, expressing these well-known facts, they informed us that they were
 “ withheld by their superiours, and commanded not to join the English in any
 “ publick