

persons who will abuse their credulity and their prejudices to the purposes of faction. Ignorance is the means of perpetuating national antipathies, of keeping alive the remembrance of unreasonable jealousy and suspicion. Let light arise among the people, and these bitter animosities will die. Why should the inhabitants of Canada consider themselves as of two distinct nations? Though their ancestors were descended from different originals, have not they themselves, the most serious reasons for unanimity and concord? Do they not breathe the same air? Are they not nourished by the same benignant soil; and all enriched by the commerce of the same River? Are they not protected by the same Government? Have they not the same laws, the same rights, and one common interest? The happiness of the one cannot be injured without impairing that of the other. The welfare of both is promoted by the same means. Though their languages are different, their interests cannot be separated.

It is ignorance alone that perpetuates the dissensions that disturb this Province. It is ignorance that, in all countries, has preserved alive the seeds of contention. Ireland has, for seven centuries, been connected with the English Government. But the greater part of the inhabitants, being wholly ignorant, have not in all that time, laid aside their national antipathy against the inhabitants of Britain. The more enlightened peasantry of Scotland, in the course of one century, entirely dropped the most deadly animosities that one people ever entertained against another. At this moment, they are