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which have been hurled against us during the last few weeks. I did suppose I was a Protestant. (Hear, hear, and laughter.) I did suppose I was a Protestant of the most ultra kind. (Cheers) I did suppose that I belonged to a class of people who prided themselves on the absence of bigotry—(cheers)—who knew what religious liberty meant, and who prized religious liberty—(renewed cheering)—a class of people who, **because they claimed it for themselves, granted it to everybody.** (Great applause.) I have begun to think within the last month, however, that probably, for religious liberty, some Protestants of the Province of Ontario will really have to go and take lessons from the Archbishop. (Loud and prolonged laughter and applause.) I did suppose that the Protestants of Ontario had such a **love for the Bible, and such a belief in the Bible, that a great shout, a regular Salvation Army shout of "Hallelujah!" would go up when it was known that Archbishop Lynch had approved selections from the Protestant Bible to be read in the Public Schools.** (Thunders of applause.) If the Archbishop never did a good thing before in his life, he **did a good thing which should secure for him the enthusiastic commendation of all Protestant people in that.** (Renewed applause.) And especially so when, in reference to these selections of Scripture, the only suggestion which he made in the way of change was to substitute "who" for the obsolete "which" in the Lord's Prayer—an awful interference with Protestantism, a terrible attack upon the religious liberty and freedom of Ontario. (Laughter.) So, Mr. Chairman, Protestantism is in great peril. (Cheers and laughter.) But, seriously, Mr. Chairman, I do not intend to-morrow, when I stand in my pulpit, to take politics there. (Great applause.) God forbid that I should lend myself and my sacred office to party, and, under cover of the pulpit and its sacred surroundings, endeavour not only to stir up religious bigotry and hatred, but to use that for the purpose of elevating one party to power at the expense of another. I am not a politician, and I am disposed always to accord worth and character to men of all parties in office when they deserve it. I have looked upon

#### THE COURSE OF THE PREMIER

of this Province with the highest satisfaction. (Loud and prolonged cheering.) It has seemed to me a most delightful thing that throughout the length and breadth of this land we could look to him who is in the controlling position and feel that we had in that position an honest man—(cheers)—a capable man—(renewed cheers)—a pure man—(more cheering)—a Christian man. (Tremendous applause.) And one of the mysteries of inquiry is how it can be possible for Christian ministers to lend themselves to the tricks of party for the sake of hurling from office a Christian statesman of whom we are all proud. (Thunders of applause.) **Mr. Chairman, I go for the Bible, I go for the selections.** (Hear, hear.) And I rejoice that they have been endorsed, not only by the thirty-eight or thirty-nine who are known to be

#### DISGUISED JESUITS

—(laughter)—but by the Archbishop himself. (Cheers.) And sir, I hope it will be found that those who are prepared to take all the risk—and it is a terrible risk—of exciting religious bigotry in the community, and of stirring into flames fires which were smouldering in their ashes, causing those fires to blaze forth once more, assuming the awful responsibility involved in fanning into fresh flames the embers of bigotry, and taking that risk and assuming that responsibility for the sake of political effect, will have so far defeated themselves that there shall go out a voice from the electors of all this Province declaring—**down, henceforth and forever, with those who would resort to such a means of gaining political advantage.** (Tremendous applause. (Mr. Chairman, I desire to offer

#### A MOTION

to the effect that this meeting rejoices to acknowledge with thanks that, under the Administration of Hon. Oliver Mowat, all denominations and all creeds have had impartial justice.

The reverend gentleman resumed his seat amidst a perfect hurricane of applause.