

THE PROTESTANT PRESS AND THE DOUKHOBORS.

True Witness.

When will English-speaking Catholics in this Province realize the hostility with which they are regarded and treated, either openly or insidiously, by the Protestant press? The "True Witness" has several times drawn attention to facts bearing on this point—facts proved by quotations from representative secular newspapers. And yet our people look calmly on, and continue to bestow their patronage on these same journals. A new and very telling testimony to the attitude of the Protestant press towards us is afforded in the manner in which a few thousand Russian Doukhobors, or "Spirit Wrestlers," immigrants, have been received by the press. The Montreal "Star" has gone into hysterics over them. It sent a special artist to accompany them across the Atlantic, so as to draw sketches of a number of them, together with a special reporter to write up the incidents of the voyage, the history of the sect, their habits and other peculiarities. Other Protestant newspapers, like the Toronto "Globe," have gone almost as far; and gushful Protestant ladies of Toronto have been writing to the press letters by the score asking for money to make them comfortable, to help them to clear the land which has been given to them in Manitoba. The Canadian Government, even, has accorded them special favors.

We ask our readers to consider candidly this question:

Would all this fuss, or one-hundredth part of it, have occurred if a hundred thousand good Irish-Catholic immigrants had come to Canada, instead of a few thousand Doukhobors? They know, as well as we do, that nothing of the kind would have occurred. These "Spirit Wrestlers" are warmly—nay, enthusiastically welcomed by the Protestant press of Canada because they have left the Greek Church, and have set up a sort of religion of their own. Here is what the Montreal "Star" says about them in a two-page article:—

"A new epoch in Canadian history was begun when the Beaver line steamship Lake Huron arrived in Halifax Harbor, Friday afternoon, a week ago, with the first contingent of the Doukhobor emigrants for the North-West. Two thousand Russian peasants there were, who like the Pilgrim Fathers left homes and native land because of religious persecutions. Like those sturdy souls, these Doukhobors came in sight of the land of promise and liberty chanting songs of thanksgiving. In more than one sense it was an incident of history repeating itself. The followers of William Penn fled from England to escape the persecution of a dominant ecclesiasticalism and the tyranny of what they considered unjust laws. They left their native land to hew out of the virgin forests of America new homes where they could enjoy the free exercise of their religious belief without molestation. So also with the Doukhobors. The tyranny of the Czar of Russia, whose proclamation in favor of universal peace has scarce ceased to ring in the ears of the nations of the world, and the relentless persecution of

a dominant church, have forced these simple Russian peasants to seek on the prairies of Canada the same liberty which was found two centuries ago in the forests of Pennsylvania, by those sturdy Quaker settlers."

The "Star" writer is all wrong. The Pilgrim Fathers left England on account of religious persecution, it is true, but when they were well settled in the land of freedom, they themselves set up a system of religious persecution and tyranny more odious still than that from which they fled. Again they left good homes behind them, which cannot be said of the squalid Doukhobors.

Who and what are these Doukhobors? They are not Christians; they do not believe in God; they live in concubinage. The Protestant press does not, of course, put these things as plainly as the "True Witness" does. It seeks to gloss over their absence of any system of religion. They acknowledge, we are told, Christ's coming in the flesh, but chiefly in the spiritual "sense."

"Marriage among them is not regarded as a holy sacrament, and is accomplished merely by the mutual consent of the young couple. There are no marriage rites or ceremonies; the mere consent of the two and a promise to live together suffices." "By the word of God they understand the power of love."

We shall not be surprised if these strange people receive an annual grant from the Manitoba Government for separate schools.

FATHER CHINIQUY DEAD.

True Witness.

"Tu es sacerdos in aeternum." Five and sixty years ago these sublime words were pronounced, by episcopal lips, over the late Charles Paschal Telesphore Chiniquy, and the power which they imparted, the dignity which they bestowed, as well as the responsibilities which they imposed are unchanged by lapse of time, uninterrupted by death, unending as eternity. Yesterday, while yet amongst the living, he may have been the most deadly enemy of the Holy Catholic Church; to-day, in the realms of God's justice, he is a priest of that Church—a priest in the full acceptance of the term, with all the obligations attached to that sacred office, and with the seal sacerdotal indelibly stamped upon his soul. He may have abandoned the Church, abused the Sacraments, carried his enmity to the utmost degree of fanaticism, sown seeds of infidelity by the handful, perverted scores of the faithful, trampled upon every vow and obligation, in a word, he may have spurned and insulted the spiritual mother that nursed him, still he carried with him through life, and he now wears in eternity, be it as a crown of glory, or diadem of misery—the unchangeable sign of priesthood. It is, therefore, as a priest that the Catholic must consider the man, and, as such, do we regard him when recalling his career. It would be difficult to review, even in several columns, the countless points of interest in the extraordinary life that closed last Monday. Whether we consider it in regard to the exceptional number of years, the marvellous vitality exhibited even to the end, the kaleidoscopic changes, reverses, successes, in-

consistencies, contradictions and vicissitudes that astonish and bewilder, we perceive one predominating passion asserting itself everywhere, and at all times, one great motive power, so to speak, which imparted every impetus to that man of iron and fire—the passion of Pride. In later years that pride became more like vanity, but it still remained the same egotistical sentiment embodied in the two historic and unfortunate words "Non serviam." It was that spirit—so foreign to the Church—which arrested the great preacher of temperance, when, in the full blaze of his renown and in the hour of his wonderful ascendancy, he stepped aside from the path of truth and stumbled into the by-ways of error; it was that spirit dictated the first act of insubordination and the subsequent disobedience which led to this awful life-catastrophe; it was that spirit that pushed him along during those years of wavering and uncertainty, when alternately harkening to the voice of conscience that recalled him and the voice of human respect that urged him onward; it was that spirit which magnified in his eyes the fame or notoriety to be reaped, and re-echoed in his ears the plaudits that bespoke popularity; it was that spirit which in old age checked every impulse of a better nature, and prevented a possibility of any return to the faith; it was that spirit which at the close rejected the last offer of reconciliation coming from one whose episcopal authority still governed by right the sacerdotal subordinate.

Viewed then from the standpoint of Catholicity the life and the death of the apostate priest constitute most terrible lessons. After his marriage in 1864, it is very easy to understand that family ties, domestic duties and demands should place an almost insurmountable barrier between the fallen priest and his chances of conversion; when age came on, with its second childhood, we can comprehend how easy it was to flatter the vanity of the unfortunate victim of pride and impulse and to retain him in the

path of error by a silken cord that in the days of his vigor he might have snapped; we can, likewise, account for much of his exaggerated attacks upon the Church and his frantic attempts to justify his own apostasy by hearing insults upon the hierarchy, the clergy and even the Sacraments. Once caught in the vortex of irreligion, of rebellion against all that he once held most sacred, it is not surprising that he was swept on by an irresistible power and carried into the gulf that yawned before him.

A SPANISH AMBROSE.

Wesleyan Watchman.

It would seem that with our Philippine rebels and our Cuban insurgents on our hands we would have quite enough trouble to keep us busy without the preachers embroiling us with the cultured and peace-loving Spaniards of those islands. Our troops were not long in Manila when a preacher in the uniform of an American major forcibly made his way into a convent and outraged the holy stillness of the place by his loud demands for inspection. Two Sundays after we entered Havana those preachers organized an indignation meeting in the public square, and started the ball in motion for proclaiming Protestantism theaceforward the religion of the island. Last Sunday the anniversary of the Maine disaster was celebrated in Havana and a monster procession to the Catholic cemetery was planned and services according to all the rituals and by preachers of a dozen different sects were to have been held. The Bishop promptly vetoed that portion of the celebration by reminding the commanding general that the cemetery was the property of the Catholic Church and preachers had no more right to officiate there than they would have to preach in his own cathedral. There were many Catholic sailors on the Maine and for that reason burial of all the victims of that disaster had been permitted in the Church's consecrated ground; but at the interment only Catho-

lic services had been held, and only Catholic services would be allowed now. The letter of the Bishop was a shock to the patriots. They did not know that any authority had to be respected on the island but that of the United States. Was not this Catholic bishop an officer of the Spanish Church, and was not the sovereignty of Spain wholly withdrawn from the island? What was this Catholic Church which so impudently raised her head and challenged the right of the United States to trespass on her property? She is a deathless organization that survives when all else dies; an invincible power that remains erect when all else fails. She speaks with the same authoritative voice in Havana as in New York; in St. Louis as in Rome. It is not because she is Spanish, but because she is the Church of God in Spain that she commands obedience. It is not because she has held undisputed sway in Cuba for four hundred years that she claims immunity from American interference; but because she has represented God on that island and has no notion of giving up her divine commission. Because she is of God she calls the attention of this country and her officers in Havana to her God given privileges. This astounds the preachers who have no idea of a Church founded by Christ and administered in His name and by His authority. Attila had no idea of such a Church when the finger of the Roman pontiff arrested his triumphant march. The Emperor Nero had no idea of such a Church when he lighted Rome with bodies of burning Christians. The Puritans had no idea of such a Church when they made their Blue Laws to exterminate Catholics. The United States may have known but she will realize soon more than ever that the Catholic Church is a thing to be reckoned with, and in the future the authority of the Holy Father will be a factor in our national life and the laws of the Church a force to be considered in our imperial policy. We shall follow the Protestant countries in sending ministers to the Vatican and in accepting the kindly offices of the Pope in our international complications. The war has made the Sovereign Pontiff a power in the New World.

I have used Ripans Tablets with so much satisfaction that I can cheerfully recommend them. I have been troubled for about three years with what I called bilious attacks coming on regularly once a week. Was told by different physicians that I was being attacked by bad teeth, of which I had several. I had the teeth extracted, but the attacks continued. I had seen advertisements of Ripans Tablets in all the papers but had no faith in them, but about six weeks since a friend induced me to try them. Have taken but two of the small 5-cent boxes of the Tablets and have had no recurrence of the attacks. Have never given a testimonial for anything before, but the great amount of good which I believe has been done me by Ripans Tablets induces me to add mine to the many testimonials you doubtless have in your possession now. A. T. DeWitt.

I have been a great sufferer from constipation for over five years. Nothing gave me any relief. My feet and legs and abdomen were bloated so I could not wear shoes on my feet and only a loose dress. I saw Ripans Tablets advertised in our daily paper, bought some and took them as directed. Have taken them about three weeks and there is such a change! I am not constipated any more and I owe it all to Ripans Tablets. I am thirty-seven years old, have no occupation, only my household duties and nursing my sick husband. He has had the dropsy and I am trying Ripans Tablets for him. He feels some better but it will take some time, he has been sick so long. You may use my letter and name as you like. Mrs. MARY GORMAN CLARKE.

I have been suffering from headaches ever since I was a little girl. I could never ride in a car or go into a crowded place without getting a headache and sick at my stomach. I heard about Ripans Tablets from an aunt of mine who was taking them for catarrh of the stomach. She had found such relief from their use she advised me to take them too, and I have been doing so since last October, and will say they have completely cured my headaches. I am twenty-nine years old. You are welcome to use this testimonial. Mrs. J. BROOKMYER.

I want to inform you, in words of highest praise, of the benefit I have derived from Ripans Tablets. I am a professional nurse and in this profession a clear head is always needed. Ripans Tablets does it. After one of my cases I found myself completely run down. Acting on the advice of Mr. Geo. Bowler, Ph. G., 658 Newark Ave., Jersey City, I took Ripans Tablets with grand results. Miss BESSIE WIEDMAN.

Mother was troubled with heartburn and sleeplessness, caused by indigestion, for a good many years. One day she saw a testimonial in the paper endorsing Ripans Tablets. She determined to give them a trial, and was greatly relieved. She now and now takes the Tablets regularly. She keeps a few cartons Ripans Tablets in the house and says she will not be without them. The heartburn and sleeplessness have disappeared with the indigestion which was formerly so great a burden for her. Our whole family takes the Tablets regularly, especially after a hearty meal. My mother is fifty years of age and is enjoying the best of health and spirits; she eats hearty meals, an impossibility before she took Ripans Tablets. ANTON H. BLAUER.

RIPANS The modern standard Family Medicine: Cures the common every-day ill of humanity. ONE GIVES RELIEF. My seven-year-old boy suffered with pains in his head, constipation and complained of his stomach. He could not eat like children of his age do and what he did eat did not do with him. He was thin and of a saffron color. Reading some of the testimonials in favor of Ripans Tablets, I tried them. Ripans Tablets not only relieved but actually cured my youngster, the headaches have disappeared, he is in good condition and he never complains of his stomach. He is now a red, chubby-faced boy. This wonderful change I attribute to Ripans Tablets. I am satisfied that they will benefit any one (from the cradle to old age) if taken according to directions. B. W. PRICE.

A new style packet containing THE RIPANS TABLETS packed in a paper carton (without glass) is now for sale at some drug stores—FOR FIVE CENTS. This low-priced sort is intended for the poor and the economical. One dozen of the five-cent cartons (30 tablets) can be had by mail by sending forty-eight cents to the RIPANS CHEMICAL COMPANY, No. 10 Spruce Street, New York—or a single carton (THE TABLETS) will be sent for five cents. RIPANS TABLETS may also be had of some grocers, general storekeepers, news agents and at some liquor stores and barber shops. They banish pain, induce sleep and prolong life. One gives relief.

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