

finding enough people to accommodate their autocratic instincts at home, are moving into the States along with Quebec immigrants. There are in this unhappy province perhaps fifteen hundred priests, and a small army of religious, living on the fat of the land and the strength of the people, and in spite of their number, their comfortable circumstances, and the efforts of wise men like Goldwin Smith and the editors of the *Toronto Mail*, *New York Independent*, *Christian Advocate*, *Churchman*, and like journals, to discredit them, they enjoy the tithes, the respect, and the love of their people. Again and again have humane politicians striven to root them out and to shake the people's esteem for them in vain. The Canadian of Quebec will not be induced to take his church tithes and put them into his own pocket, much as he loves and hoards money. The Protestant spiritual and political missions to them have been mournful failures. Even Mr. Chiniquy had to retire to Illinois.

We admit this is the one serious defect (as Protestants judge matters) in the Quebec province. There are reasons for it. The French-Canadian of any rank in life feels that God can confer on his family no greater honor than to make one of his boys a priest, one of his girls a nun. This is curious in view of one or two circumstances. The life of the ordinary priest or nun in Canada is not financially a happy one. The nuns, for instance, are bound to absolute poverty, and are of no manner of material assistance to their friends and relatives. The salary of the city curate in Montreal is one hundred and twenty dollars per annum, with scant perquisites; of the town and country curates sixty to eighty dollars, with no perquisites at all. The ordinary third-rate parishes in a diocese as wealthy as Montreal represents an annual income of about eight hundred dollars, the second-rate twelve hundred or fourteen hundred dollars, and the very best do very well if they present their *curé* with two thousand dollars. There are fourth-rate and fifth-rate parishes of which we shall not speak, and there are also poorer dioceses than Montreal which have also their fifth-rate parishes. \*It seems to make little difference to the Canadian, so long as his son is the priest. Therefore Protestant missions have found it difficult to bribe this people. Honor seems to mean more to them than soup, and they are evidently determined to continue in their present priest-ridden condition. We apologize for them to our separated brethern. But as

\* The priests of religious orders in some cases get sixty dollars per year, and in others simply their life support.