

ROMAN CATHOLIC AGGRESSIVENESS.

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The Roman Catholic Church claims to be the only true church of Jesus Christ. She possesses the treasure of truth. God has vested all authority and power in the infallible head of the church, the pope of Rome. He alone can interpret the Word of God without error.

It is not to be wondered at, that a church which holds such views, should be aggressive. In her palmy days she deemed it her duty to compel men to enter her fold, not by persuasion only, but by the sword and the rack. Deprived of much of the temporal power she once exercised, she has betaken herself to another method of warfare against what she calls heresy. She is adopting the more rational and Christian method of preaching her erroneous dogmas to adherents of the Protestant evangelical truth.

During the month of January, Father Younan, a priest belonging to the order of the Paulists, whose headquarters are in New York, delivered a series of sermons in St. Patrick's Church, Montreal. These sermons were designated for Protestants, with the view of leading them to abandon their faith, to embrace the doctrines of the Roman Catholic church. Roman Catholics were not expected to attend the services of this mission, unless it was to bring with them a Protestant friend. The church was crowded night after night. What proportion of the audience was formed of Protestants, is difficult to say. It is known that many went to hear Father Younan. Such questions as the following were discussed: The authority of the Bible, Auricular Confession, the Real Presence, Papal infallibility. The speaker was cautious, avoided denunciation, interwove passages of Scripture in his addresses, which were of a character to attract and convince uninformed Protestants, unaccustomed to the subtleties of Roman controversy.

At the close of last month, twelve baptisms were reported, and it was stated that there was a class of inquirers, composed of five hundred members, under instruction.