

Insignificant as the French population of Louisiana and the lower Mississippi was, three-quarters of a century has not sufficed to absorb it into the body politic. The French market-woman of New Orleans still dresses as a French woman, speaks French and thinks French, as unequivocally as her sister who drives her little cart filled with vegetables and flowers from the Beauport flats, into the Quebec market on a Saturday morning.

Add one and-a-half millions of French to the million already in the States, and bring these two and-a-half million into antagonism with the other sixty millions of the United States, and the two and-a-half millions would become an even more concret unit than they are to-day. It would organize, and stand unflinchingly on the defensive to preserve its religious, social and judicial institutions. Its solid vote would at once become an object of bargain and sale in the American political market. The Roman Catholic Church in the United States, already divided into Liberal and Conservative wings, feels the impossibility of resisting the impulse of American ideas, especially, on the subject of education and common schools, and the liberal prelates, having enlisted the Papal delegate and the Pope on their side, have advocated, and in places carried into practice, a nondescript combination of secular and ecclesiastical education, which must be an abomination to Cardinal Taschereau and the whole ultra-montayne