

interpretation of truth and fresh revelations, and a people disposed to follow blind leaders to any extent, against him, we can see it was no easy matter for him to stand alone and bear the consequences.

This manly, independent spirit is much needed at the present day, especially in politics and religion. Hero-worship is growing upon the masses, although there is so much said, at present, about democratic feeling and republican institutions, and cliques and coteries are commanding their quota of the population. In such a state of society we must have one of two things—either a perfect humanity, where autocracy will work for the general weal, or individuals who, stand for a truth and who, by being balanced one against the other, will give as the resultant that which tends to further the progress of absolute truth and goodness. The former we cannot have as yet, as we are still some distance from perfection, hence the need for the latter. Oh for men of the Luther type, who will take their stand on what conscience, common sense and revelation approve of, and dare to brave the opposition of princes and the scorn of the world ! Canada stands in need of leaders of this type at present, whether they be of the Liberal or Conservative persuasion. Let us pray the Lord of the harvest that He send us political, social and religious laborers, who, taking their commission from Himself, will dare to do and be all that is right in His sight, and that is calculated to lift up our nation and the race to a higher plane.

5.—In the last place, John the Baptist was great because of his marvellous power to draw men and his ability to influence them for good. It may be said that he lived at a time when men's minds were easily swayed by the persuasive eloquence of the public orator. Admitting this, there is still sufficient left to sustain our point. If the masses, and especially the more degraded part, were easily led, the same cannot be said respecting the better class, and certainly it cannot be affirmed of the Scribes and Pharisees. So great was the force of John's eloquence, and so powerful the magnetic influence he wielded, that