

that other and more dangerous publications emanating from the same source may not influence them to such an extent, that they might become perfectly uncontrollable. Besides, the Protestants are a sensitive and high-minded people ; slow to offer offence, they are quick at resenting it, and when they make the effort, it generally proves to be sure and effectual. To avoid this evil, the Roman Catholic ecclesiastical authorities, from whom better things should be expected, should themselves set the example of mutual forbearance and good-will. They should avoid creating strife among the different classes of the people, but when we find them, as we have done on this occasion, spreading a firebrand among them, it is high time they should be rebuked and made to appreciate the fact that the Protestants in the Province of Quebec, though numerically their inferior, are in point of wealth, intelligence and social position eminently their superiors.

The idea of consolidating the British North American Provinces into a great power on this continent was remarkable for the grandeur of its conception ; as a counterpoise to the spread of democratic principles, it cannot fail to attain its end, and in order that it should become an accomplished fact, it needs a fair trial, without any clog to impede the working of the system. Besides the manifest advantages it will confer on British subjects in Canada, it will be the means of holding in check the tendency of republicans to launch forth into that licentiousness, which is the usual concomitant of democratic institutions. As a refuge for political offenders, it has already, in the case of the Southern refugees, been proved efficacious ;