

spicuous, instances, we have seen, time and time again, the working of this same spirit of rampant-untempered socialism, and are made to feel how helpless the Church is to allay the storm, to the raising of which she has too much contributed. One melancholy feature of the prevailing godlessness of our time is the frequency of suicide. It is said that even in our quiet, and comparatively moral, City of Toronto, there have been six suicides within the last month. If this be unhappily true, it indicates a condition of irreligious godless despair prevailing our community, which leads those who are sorely tried by adversity, or by the wickedness of others, to seek relief from their troubles, not in God's love, but in what they wrongly suppose to be oblivion and annihilation.

For all the evils of our social condition the true remedy is not despair, but faith, faith which endures, as seeing Him, Who is invisible now, but Who upholds all things, guides all things, by the word of His power, Who came to take away sin by the sacrifice of Himself, and Who shall yet come to take vengeance on them that obey not God, and to be glorified in His Saints and admired in them that believe. But before that time the world must be turned upside down, and many customs which have corrupted the world must be changed by the power of God. And God fulfils Himself in many ways, and it rests altogether with men themselves whether this radical change from prevailing wrong to triumphant right shall be effected amid the lurid fires of sanguinary revolution, or by the gentle influences of the Spirit of God. To this end let us labour, for labour is prayer, and while we labour let us in our lives as well as with our lips pray in the words of last Sunday's collect that the course of this world may be so peaceably ordered by God's governance, that His Church may joyfully serve Him in all godly quietness.

It is too much, however to expect that all will be smooth water and calm progress for the Ark of Christ's Church. It will not be until all or nearly all the baptised members of Christ are steadfast in faith, joyful through hope, and rooted in charity, that the Church which they make up will safely pass the waves of this troublesome world. Christ came not to send peace on earth, but a sword, and the progress of His religion has all along been marked by strife, and even bloodshed. And no wonder, for the world has to be subdued to the obedience of Christ, and worldliness fights long, and dies hard. It would not matter so much if the struggle were entirely with outside enemies; but in every century and in every country, worldliness within the Church has been the great trouble, and Christ's worst foes have been those of His own household. And so it has come to pass that from time to time the religion of Jesus has found itself involved in the jealousies and ambitions of worldly men, and has been used by them as a pretext for furthering their unworthy designs. And so, I fear, it will continue to be until men have really learned that the Most High ruleth in the kingdoms of men, and that righteousness exalteth a nation.

Great Britain and Ireland have been no strangers to this mixture