

moral precepts, must produce, by and by, a generation having no other guide but its own wild passions and conceits, and ending in disaster. Such has invariably been the result wherever and whenever the sad experiment has been tried. In France, in Germany, or in the United States of America, the exclusion of religious teaching has been attended with the same lamentable consequences.

If so in the advanced schools and higher branches of education, how much stronger must be the argument in favor of religious training in our primary schools. If the children of the masses of the people do not learn there all that pertains to faith, virtue and piety, and all their duties to God, to themselves, their parents, and society at large, that knowledge can never be acquired elsewhere.

In view of these all important and undeniable truths, Saint Peter has over and over spoken through Pius the Ninth, and secured perfect unanimity on this grand point among the Catholic Bishops of the whole world. In Ireland, in England, in America, the Bishops of the Church in pastorals and synodical addresses, have, with one accord, pronounced that education based on our holy religion alone is suitable for Catholic children. So far therefore, from approving of so called mixed schools, where religion is, as it were, divorced from the school room, they have unanimously condemned them as being positively injurious to the best interests of Catholic youth.

With this conviction, we feel that any interference of the State with the natural right of our Catholic citizens in this country, would be a galling tyranny. When we are taxed directly or indirectly for the maintenance of mixed schools, and are called on besides, as we are in conscience, to support separate schools for our own children, as men of honor, in this free land, we are bound to oppose such a system, by every legitimate means in our power.

After many years of painful agitation, the principle first acknowledged by the Catholic majority in the Province of Quebec, was afterwards adopted in a more stinted measure by the Protestant majority of Ontario.