

and talk as if the continuance of their language were guaranteed by treaty. They detest the thought of their people being Anglicized, but as priests they know that they can fare nowhere as well as under British rule, and especially in the Province of Quebec. Self-interest, therefore, keeps them within certain limits, and leads them to endure, as best they can, the presence of influential heretics among the French as well as the English. Their teaching of intolerance, however, has its baneful influence on the ignorant masses, who fail to see why they should not do what is taught as right. Hence outbursts of violence, and mobs attempting to reach without legal process the end indicated by St. Thomas. It is not necessary to tell the story of such cases, and we only mention one of the latest, which occurred more than a year ago in the streets of Montreal. Night after night thousands of Roman Catholics assembled in lawless mobs, determined to prevent the preaching of the gospel in the French Presbyterian churches by Father Chiniquy. The matter at length became so serious that on the 13th of November, 1884, on a few hours' notice thirty-four ministers, representing the Church of England, the Presbyterian, Methodist, Baptist, Congregational, and Reformed Episcopal churches, met and unanimously adopted the following resolution :

"That in the opinion of this meeting, composed of the Ministers of the various Protestant churches in the city of Montreal, full liberty of worship and liberty of speech are rights which belong to all creeds and nationalities in the land, and should be freely accorded without hindrance or question ;

"That the recent acts of the mob in this city, whereby several of the French Protestant churches have been repeatedly attacked and damaged, are a wanton and unwarrantable interference with these rights, such as merits the severest condemnation ;

"That while gratefully recognizing the service rendered by the police in restraining the violence of the mob, and in seeking to prevent further damage to property and life, this meeting respectfully urges the authorities to take the most vigorous measures to prevent any continuation of these unlawful acts, and pledges to them its hearty encouragement and support in so doing."

Copies of it having been sent to the daily papers, to the Lieutenant-Governor of Quebec, the Mayor and Chief of Police, and to all the Protestant ministers of the city, to be read in the churches, order was once restored. This is a specimen of the intolerance to which we refer as the outcome of Romish teaching and the vigilance needed to keep it in check. Father Chiniquy says in his Autobiography, p. 824 : "I have been stoned twenty times. The principal places in Canada where I was struck and wounded and almost miraculously escaped were : Quebec, Montreal, Ottawa, Charlottetown, Halifax, and Antigonish."

What makes the state of things thus far depicted specially serious, to contemplate is the fact that Romanism holds the balance of political power in the Dominion, and by this means interferes with the independence of public men. We do not say all, but there are many whose consciences must tell them, if they ever listen to the voice of that celestial monitor, that this is the case. It is well known that the vast majority of Romanists in this and in every country are in the hands of the priests. They guide their political as well as religious thinking and acting. True children of the Church must do in public matters what they are told ; and politics, with the clergy, does not mean the acceptance or rejection of the platform and policy of Conservatives or Liberals, but more money and more power for the Church. With other partisans the main thing is to seize the reins of Government and hold them as long as possible, so as to enjoy the emoluments and exercise the patronage which this involves. The priests understand this, and know well that as Protestants are divided on all public questions, no Government can exist without the solid vote they command on the floor of the House. Hence those ambitious to rule must vie with each other in all sorts of efforts to secure their powerful support, which can only be done by yielding to their wishes.

But is this game to go on forever ? Is Romanism to become stronger and stronger, and completely rule the whole Dominion ? We think not, for such reasons as the following. Romanism to-day is subject to the action of mighty internal disintegrating forces which are working its downfall. The claim to infallibility is logically and necessarily accompanied by