

ments of faith and doctrine, as to which Protestants and Roman Catholics are as wide as the poles asunder. But it contains two statements which touch our social and political system, and our relations to each other as citizens of one common country, as follows :

"The Irish Catholics swear, that the Catholics of Ireland do not believe that the Pope of Rome, or any other foreign prince, prelate, state or potentate, hath, or ought to have, any temporal or civil jurisdiction, power, superiority or pre-eminence, directly or indirectly, within this realm: and this without any mental reservation or dispensation."

The prelates go on to say :

"After this full, explicit and sworn declaration, we are utterly at a loss to conceive on what possible ground we could be justly charged with bearing towards our most Gracious Sovereign only a divided allegiance."

And with reference to the other insulting charge, they say this :

"The Catholics of Ireland not only do not believe, but they declare on oath, that they detest as unchristian and impious the belief, that it is lawful to murder or destroy any person or persons whatever under the pretense of their being heretics; and also, the principle that no faith is to be kept with heretics."

There you find distinct statements which contradict allegations which ought not to have been made, and which there ought not therefore to have been necessity for contradicting; and yet, Sir, we find, not ten years ago, not five years ago, not one year ago, but within the past few days, the most offensive of these allegations repeated, allegations which I have shown would, if true, indicate a condition subversive of the free institutions of our country. Now, I am not prepared to mark as murderous, as treacherous and disloyal, nearly one-half of my fellow-citizens. I do not believe that the cause of Protestantism, of true religion, the advancement of the Gospel, the peace and prosperity, the welfare and the good government of this Dominion, will be promoted by the State recognition of this secret society, organized and led as it is in Ontario, and devoted to the propagation of views such as those which I

have exposed.

#### MISREPRESENTATION PREDICTED.

I do not myself attach, in the discordant dissolution of parties with respect to this Bill, any political significance to the question. I have viewed it from another aspect altogether; I have been anxious that we should understand what the real merits of the controversy are; and in my statement of my objections, I have endeavored to sustain them, not by stale and musty authorities, but by recent and authentic utterances. But, perhaps, I am wrong; I dare say that I shall be more bitterly misrepresented than ever before by the Orange Tory leaders; and as to the Tory Roman Catholic leaders, they, too, the temporary struggle between them and their Orange allies being ended, and the alliance revived, will regard me all the more distastefully, because I have necessarily shown, either how sham their battle is, or how false and unnatural is their conjunction.

#### THE TRUE POLICY DEFINED.

But I have this satisfaction, that I have told plainly the truth as I believe it; and it will be an ample reward to me, if I have succeeded in explaining to moderate men on both sides the views I hold, and in pointing out the true path of duty in a community of diverse races and creeds like ours; where we must combine firmness in the assertion of our own rights, with fullness in the recognition of the rights of others; we must cultivate moderation and forbearance; we must avoid misrepresentation, calumny and abuse; we must hold to the ample acknowledgment of each man's individual rights of conscience in religious matters, and of the common citizenship of all in civil affairs, if we would make of Canada a great and free country, inhabited by a happy and united people.