

survival was first recounted to the world in 1887 when Casgrain wrote his "Pèlerinage au Pays d'Évangéline." The handful of peasants who were driven from their homes and scattered over the Atlantic sea-board in 1755 have developed into a vigorous people, proud of their history and confident in the future. They have their own flag, their own national holiday, their own newspapers; in the public schools they are allowed French books and French teachers. All this is very remarkable; and it was accomplished entirely under the leadership of the church. It has given the church one more claim upon the gratitude of the French-Canadians, because the two French peoples are drawing closer together as they feel, more and more, the necessity of union in the struggle to maintain their common nationality.

For her notable services against the barbarians the church has received equally notable rewards. Above all, she has received the loyal support and affection of the people she has served. Cardinal Vannutelli, as he passed up the St. Lawrence to represent the Pope at the Eucharistic Congress in 1910, received from every parish on its shores a welcome which could have been equalled in no other country in the world. He said that it reminded him of a day in the Middle Ages.* No better description could have been given of the spirit which animates Catholic Quebec. Where else are episcopal decrees obeyed as if they were the judgments of civil courts or the enactments of civil legislatures? Where else do powerful newspapers and popular theatres wither and die under the blight of ecclesiastical interdict? *Le Canada-Revue* was destroyed because, with some show of reason, it attacked the morals of the clergy; *L'Electeur* was destroyed because it held that voters need not follow the directions of the church on political and constitutional questions.† The Théâtre des Nouveautés was forced to close its doors and afterwards accept a hoard of clerical censors because it produced a play which seemed to condone suicide.§ It is upon the same sanc-

*Mail and Empire (Toronto), 5 September, 1910.

†See below, Chapter V., Section 1.

§See below, Chapter V., Section 3.