

come has too often taken a most unchristian aspect. Nor ought we to be vigilant in defence of our Protestantism by being any less than absolutely fair in our dealings with our Roman Catholic fellow-countrymen. The Protestants, who form the majority in Ontario, should accord to the Romanists exactly the same treatment in matters political, educational, and religious as we would wish them to accord to us if they preponderated. The question as to what treatment we would be *likely* to receive has nothing to do with the matter. To act otherwise than fairly with the Roman Catholics would be to consolidate more firmly than ever the "Catholic vote" and to win for them the sympathy and moral support which persecution never fails to call forth. Of course it is not necessary nor right that we should be more than fair, or that in legislation or administration special favors should be shown to Romanists, however mighty a political factor their vote may form. But if "truth is mighty and must prevail," Protestantism has nothing to fear in meeting Roman Catholicism on equal terms; and it is surely one of our Protestant principles on which we pride ourselves that such equal terms should be accorded to all.

It may be said that these are self-evident truths which none are disposed to deny. We answer that though they may be self-evident, yet it is necessary that occasionally they should be recalled to our minds. For the fact that the religious principles of Roman Catholics necessitate their taking this aggressive attitude as against Protestantism, and the fear of what *might be* if they should gain a controlling power may tempt us sometimes to the short-sighted policy of endeavoring to prevent their gaining such control by giving them less than equal rights now. And this same fact, and this same fear may make us unduly suspicious, and may lead us to regard our legislators as having yielded to Catholic pressure, when, as a matter of fact, they have not.

Another aspect of our subject still remains to be considered. Apart from the political schemes of the Church of Rome and its designs upon our Protestant religion, and apart from the question of what our attitude should be in reference to these things, must be considered our attitude towards Roman Catholicism as a professedly Christian system. Like ourselves, its members profess to be the disciples and followers of Christ, and to be engaged in trying to win