

in Notre Dame Church, Montreal, was reported in the daily press to have said to his people: "You must not read Protestant Bibles, for they are adulterated, and falsified. They have been changed into a hundred different forms, and the Revised edition is nothing but an outrage on Christianity and a book of lies. The Protestant Bible is the word of man. In it you will find destruction; and I am sorry to say that there are Catholics who have had the weakness to believe that Protestant Bibles are true. Protestants are very sociable and polite with their Bibles. They send their agents throughout the country, such as Colporteurs, Pointe-aux-Trembles theologians, renegades, and apostates with tracts and Bibles. Now I repeat again, and I must be understood, that the Church forbids you to read those Bibles. If you have any of them in your houses, burn them; and if you don't want to burn them bring them to me and I will burn them."

What intolerance and impertinence! This zealous Father, a typical member of the fraternity, is not content simply to be censor and despot over his own flock, but takes it upon himself to tell the vast majority of the people of Canada that there Bibles are full of lies, and is not ashamed publicly to slander two companies of the most eminent scholars in Britain and America by charging them with the crime of deliberately falsifying the Word of God. This hostility to the Word and bitter determination to deprive the people of its full and free use is a matter of the gravest moment to the nation, because the history of true progress and civilization in its highest forms is simply the history of the triumphs of the Bible. No one who has regard to historic truth can deny that Bible lands are to-day elevated, progressive, scientific, free, and that nations which have not the Bible are sunken, vicious, full of tyranny and cruelty of every form. They are, therefore, not the friends and promoters of morality and national prosperity, but the reverse, who oppose and destroy the Book. Defend it who may, complicity with such work and the lavishing of resources upon it is worse than unwise.

Romanism has shown itself intolerant, and has assailed the right of private judgment and free speech. The doctrine of the Church is definitely enough expressed in the words of St. Thomas:

"Though heretics must not be tolerated because they deserve it, we must bear with

them till, by a second admonition, they may be brought back to the faith of the Church. But those who, after a second admonition, remain obstinate in their errors, must not only be excommunicated, but they must be delivered to the secular powers to be exterminated." This doctrine has been affirmed and reaffirmed by Popes, Councils, and learned theologians from the days of St. Thomas to the present moment, and is taught in the Colleges and Churches of Canada. The Vatican Council of 1871 denounced the idea that "it is no longer expedient that the Catholic religion be held as the only religion of the State, to the exclusion of all other modes of worship." And further that "in some countries called Catholic persons coming to reside in them should enjoy the public exercise of their own worship." In Section 80 the usual anathema is pronounced upon all who think that the Roman Pontiff can and ought to reconcile himself to and agree with progress, liberalism, and civilization as lately introduced. These things are most surely believed among the ecclesiastics of Canada. Their great difficulty is how to give them practical effect. Where the Church is too weak, as in Ontario and other Provinces of the Dominion, she has to submit to the inevitable; but her spirit and purpose are unchanged, and she leaves nothing undone through the agency of Jesuits, the supineness of flexible Protestants, and the ambition of unprincipled politicians to gain more power. To speak of her otherwise would be to disregard her history, the decrees of the Lateran Council of 1215, the utterances of St. Thomas, St. Liguori, and a host of other authorities, as well as what has repeatedly transpired under our own eyes. We have not been visited with the penalties enjoined by these holy Fathers. The Inquisition is a thing of the past, which cannot be introduced on this Continent. The Church has her dark, unwholesome cells, which no civil officer inspects; but these can only be used for the devotees of monastic orders. And she knows well how far to go in this matter, and does not forget that we are part of a Protestant empire, and that it would be suicidal folly on her part to provoke open conflict by attempting to enforce her dogmas. Her peculiar institutions flourish under our flag as nowhere else. For this reason it is natural for priests to be loyal. As Frenchmen they are intensely French, and seem to think