

Correspondence.

THE INFALLIBILITY OF THE POPE.

To the Venerable Pastors, and to the Elders and Disciples of the Gospel in Canada.

DEAR BRETHREN,—

Allow me to address you a few words in the solemn hour which is before us.

A new iniquity has just now been accomplished! A new blasphemy has gone from Rome to the Throne of God, to insult His Sovereign Majesty, and bring his wrath upon a perishing world! But the Pope, by proclaiming himself infallible, has not only made himself the equal of God—he has brought a new dark cloud around the intelligence of millions, he has put new chains around the necks of our fellow men!

Shall we remain idle spectators of this portentous event?

When Lucifer, at the head of the rebellious angels, proclaimed himself the equal of God, did not Michael, at the head of the faithful tribe of Heaven, fight for the Lord? There has never been an hour, when those, who adore the Lamb slain for them, ought more than now buckle on the armour, and prepare as for the last and supreme conflict.

True, many Roman Catholics will reject with contempt the new fetters imposed on their intelligence, but these will be the small minority. The multitude will, more than ever, shut their eyes to the truth, and, with a most brutish folly, they will plunge into the bottomless abyss of the superstitions of Rome, if those whom the Lord calls to their rescue forget and neglect their sacred duty.

Is it not when the enemy makes new efforts to entrap the souls that we, the children of God, ought to do everything in our power to spread the light?

Oh, let us have compassion on so many perishing souls! Many of them are ripe fruit for the Gospel—they require only a charitable hand to be saved. More than ever we can respect the words of our merciful Saviour: "Lift up your eyes and look on the fields for they are white already for the harvest." These last six months, near two hundred Roman Catholics in Lower Canada have given me their names to renounce the errors of Rome, and many more, in the United States, have come to Jesus in the same time.

Our Kankakee Missions have more than ever been blessed by the God of the Gospel, and the French Canadian Missionary Society has never reaped such an abundant crop of souls as this year.

More than ever the Good Master has blessed the sacrifices you had made to keep up our humble Collegiate Institution of St. Anne. Our young men whom you had helped me to prepare for the preaching of the Gospel, are now working in Canada and the Maritime Provinces with zeal and success; and many more of our young pupils offer themselves for the work.

The Missionaries are welcomed to-day in many places where they were insulted only a few years ago. And those who look to the signs of the times are filled with the hope that, if we are true to our duty, before long