

our unfortunate brethren remain at this moment cut off from the Common Father, it is the work of the enemy. Do thou unmask his snares, and terrify his legions, in order that those who are separated from us may see, at last, that the attainment of salvation is impossible outside of union with the successor of saint Peter.

“ O thou who, in the fulness of thy gifts, didst glorify from the beginning the power of Him Who wrought in thee such great and wonderful things, glorify now thy Son by calling back the straying sheep to His only fold, under the guidance of the universal shepherd, who holds His place on earth. And as it was thy glory, O Virgin, to have exterminated all errors from the world, so may it yet be thine to have extinguished schisms, and brought back peace to the universe.”

LATE SIR JOHN THOMPSON.

An interesting letter written to a Protestant friend by the late Sir John Thompson, Premier of Canada, has now been made public for the first time. It tells briefly the story of his conversion, and illustrates anew the perplexities, anxieties, and discouragements which confront all converts to the Church, but especially those bred to the “learned professions.” We quote :

“ I had been attending the Church of England and Roman Catholic services assiduously for a period of four years, and had been reading all the controversies I could get my hands on, and finally yielded when to believe and not to profess appeared to be wretched cowardice. I had very few Catholic clients, no influential Catholic friends. I believed the day of my baptism closed my chances to professional advancement or any other. I felt I had but one recourse—my shorthand. I knew I could not support my wife and myself, if matters came to the worst. But I felt that there was no use in putting all this before the public, and that it was better to stand by the certain right which I had ; that these were not matters for public discussion, but matters of conscience only. Even if I had