

is ruined by barbarous Masonry. The plot of the novel is laid in the year 1945. On page 74 England has fallen to the third rank of nations, lost the Indies and Russia has absorbed her Eastern possessions, and the Freemasons, in league with a President of the United States, are about to absorb Canada. England in consequence, has to recall her last Governor. There are three parties in the state—the 'Statu Quo,' Legislative Union, and Separatists. The latter party is led by the hero Lamirande who wishes to establish in Quebec an independent French-Canadian and exclusively Roman Catholic nation. Sir Henry Marwood the Premier, is a Freemason and belongs to the 'Statu Quo' party, and is hostile to the Church. He tries to bribe and buy Lamirande after the true Conservative style of politicians by offering him the consul-generalship at Washington (page 83), but Lamirande will not sell. * * * Then we are introduced to a bosom friend of Lamirande, who is a sceptic and infidel, (page 93), having been vaccinated with infidelity in the public schools of Ontario, and confirmed in his infidelity by a residence in London and Paris, and who is afterwards

CONVERTED TO THE TRUE FAITH

by a miracle, the raising of Lamirande's daughter from the dead. * * * On page 106 we have an account of Sir Henry presiding at a meeting of a Masonic lodge, the lodge being opened by a prayer to Satan which the master recites before a triangle hung upon an altar, and a policy is announced which is to banish from Canadian soil the infamous superstition which prevents our progress. (page 150). Lamirande announces his policy of the union of Church and State to be the exclusion of all save the one true Church. Finally (p. 173) it is decided by the Freemasons in complicity with Sir Henry Marwood to poison Lamirande. The cup of tea which he is about to drink in the restaurant is poisoned, but his wife changes her cup of coffee with

Lamirande, who is not fond of tea, and drinks the fatal cup. There is a general election and the Nationals are beaten. (p. 195). Even the French-Canadian vote is in favor of the government of 'statu quo' or Conservative party. Lamirande, who is thoroughly disheartened by this defeat, throws himself at the feet of the statue of St. Joseph, whose aid he invokes. The statue comes to life and St. Joseph speaks to Lamirande and exhorts him to persevere in his patriotic course, (p. 197). His wife dies, advising him to marry her sister. Lamirande resolves to preserve in saving his country from the secret society whose object is the ruin of the true Church. Sir Henry visits the editor of the 'Libre Pensee,' whose chief anxiety is that the frightful sums of money which have been disbursed from the public treasury for purpose of bribery and corruption shall not be exposed. The editor of the 'Libre Pensee' has twinges of conscience as to his past career in journalism, goes to hear a Jesuit revivalist preach at Longueuil, is so impressed with the sermon that he repents and resolves to lead an honest life which is impossible if he continues the career of a party journalist. He seals his reformation by making a confession of the secrets of Masonry to the Jesuit father and proceeds to deposit with the Bishop of Montreal the whole of the archives and records of the Masonic order, he being their secretary and the papers and books not being very numerous.

This is a comparatively easy task. He deposits with the bishop all the Masonic secrets and is assassinated on his way home on St. Catherine street within two doors of the police station, by an agent of the Freemasons, who is disguised in black spectacles and long overcoat. There is a coroner's inquest, very short and business-like, differing greatly with the year 1895 in this respect. No one seems to think it strange that the murder took place two doors from the police station. If that had occurred in Montreal in 1895