

understood to mean, that we apologize for that which we believe, or that which we practice. We avow and defend our faith, and the practice of it, knowing that what we are taught will bear criticism, and deserves defence."

Another remarkable instance of Sir John Thompson's force of character was manifested, in the dignified silence maintained by him, during the fierce attacks he was subjected to by the late Rev. Dr. Douglas, a leading Methodist divine, who would not forgive him for his change of religion. On the formation of the Thompson government, Dr. Douglas poured forth the vials of his wrath. One day the writer of this little sketch, in speaking to Sir John Thompson remarked that his friends were pleased that he had made no reply to the invectives hurled against him. He then mentioned that a leading Methodist gentleman had written him a letter of sympathy, which he prized very much, and that in reply, he had set forth in a few lines his answer to the attack made upon him. After Sir John's death, I wrote to this friend and obtained permission to make a few extracts from the letter, for the purpose of a lecture to be delivered at the Catholic Summer School near Plattsburg, N. Y. Unfortunately the extracts, which were copied in many parts of this continent, were in some instances mutilated.

The assailed and the assailant being now dead, as well as the gentleman who was the recipient of that letter, I feel at liberty to give as much of it here as has any public interest, as it so thoroughly reflects the character of the writer ;

"My Dear——

"Words cannot express my appreciation of your great kindness in writing to me as you did about the extraordinary attack made on me by Dr. Douglas. The noble words of your relative, too, were a great comfort and made me realize how many there may be among the Soocoo, for whom Dr. D. claims to speak, who have too much of the Christian spirit to follow his uncharitable judgement on one of whom he knows absolutely nothing. I have had many indications of the same kind from my own province where my life was spent until the last seven years and there no enemy, political or otherwise,