

to see and require in justice, that such schools exactly answer to the exigencies of their creed. Yet, we must well bear in mind that though parents may give their children the scientific, moral and religious training they need, the Church's right to watch over that education is not *ipso facto* destroyed nor even weakened. She can, in certain cases take away or refuse to give up, children who would under the parental roof incur the risk of losing their faith and consequently of becoming perverted.

The State likewise, within the limits of her authority enjoys the very same privilege, possesses an identical right. All her hopes of future aggrandizements are grounded as it were in the schools. The children of to day will in a near future be her men of commerce, her statesmen and her defenders in the battle field. In other words, the sole ambition of the State, is to form good and active citizens, but the child will never grow up to be a *good* citizen, a useful citizen, without his having received a sound moral education ; no child will ever become an active member of society without his possessing a moderate sum at least, of scientific knowledge. Hence judicial might can snatch from the control of vicious parents the child who would under their influence and guidance make the despicable apprenticeship to lawlessness and immorality. Both, the supernatural and the social welfare of children can justify the Church and the State in this apparent violation of a natural right—the ablation of parental authority. It should not be out of place to remark here, that the right of Catholic parents would certainly suffer violence, were the State to exclude from Governmental and social functions, him who did not receive his education in public schools, especially if such houses of learning would have been stumbling-blocks to his faith and virtue. Evidently no State can ask of Catholic parents the painful sacrifice of their conscience which would naturally involve the consciences of their dear ones; but if she is unable to make such a demand, she must not punish those that would refuse to accede. She cannot, therefore exclude Catholics, as such, from any social functions since it would be inflicting an uncalled—for punishment upon them. I take the privilege of translating the following apostrophic found in the beautiful peroration of an eloquent sermon delivered by a bishop of Quebec in a fervent app-