

tated the removal of the civil disabilities under which the members of the Roman Catholic Church rested. Among many replies from Papal pens the most marked was from Cardinal Newman in an open letter to the Duke of Norfolk. Referring to the statements above referred to from Roman Catholic authorities, Dr. Newman justifies the changed attitude, and in so doing uses these words regarding the British Government's enquiries.—"If they wanted to obtain some real information about the probabilities of the future, why did they not go to headquarters? Why did they potter about the halls of universities in this matter of Papal exorbitances, or rely upon the pamphlets or examination of bishops whom they never asked for their credentials? Why not go at once to Rome? No pledge from Catholics was of any value to which Rome was not a party."

Of course the Mandement of the eleven Quebec bishops did not receive Rome's imprimatur—as Bishop Doyle's statement, it lacks the seal—but Rome will reap whatever advantage or disadvantage it gives and make no sign. And more; this enormous assertion that in free Canada Rome must have her will when she so deems best. Is that a position the citizen of a free state is ready to accept? We make no comment, but ask our readers "to read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest;" and, without bitterness, to be steady and true to their duty.

THE DECISIVE BATTLE.

HE would not be worthy of the name of a Canadian who has not been watching the great struggle, which, for some weeks past, has been waged with the keenest intensity over the whole Dominion, and who, now that it is settled, does not feel the deepest interest in the result. How general and deep this interest has been is illustrated by the fact that so many ecclesiastical and other bodies in their annual gatherings, or ordinary meetings, have given a deliverance upon the great question at issue. It would be the weakest and insincerest of all affectations to convey to our readers, by silence upon the result of the great contest, that we alone feel indifferent to it, have no opinion upon it, or if we have, have not the courage to speak it. The main questions at issue, the fastening upon an unwilling people the incubus of Separate schools, really in its essence the State support of a certain form of religious belief, and the doing of this by force, are questions upon which a religious journal both ought to have an opinion and declare it, and which it would be unpatriotic to ignore. Frankly, we regard the result of the recent great struggle with unfeigned satisfaction, a satisfaction qualified only by the regret that it has not been yet more unmistakable on the winning side in Ontario, and the Province most deeply interested, Manitoba.

We do not need to enter into a detailed examination of the causes which have led to so unquestionable an expression of public opinion upon what was by far the chief question pronounced upon, the establishment by coercion of a system of Separate schools in Manitoba. The question of the tariff is important, but at this time it has had in the public mind a quite secondary place. Under and beyond the concrete questions of Separate schools or no Separate schools for Manitoba, and the legitimacy of coercion as a principle of government, lay great vital principles—namely, the relations of the Church and the State, their independence of each other, and that of Provincial autonomy in matters within the right of each Province as determined by the constitution. It would have been most unfortunate, we do not say disastrous, for truth and right will eventually prevail, had the decision of the people upon these questions been different from what it has been, or less pronounced. The question was thoroughly discussed in all its bearings, comparatively free from petty, distracting side issues, the coercion part of it was especially well understood by the people; and they have passed a judgment upon it so deliberate and unequivocal as to afford ground for the hope that the questions will stay settled for a long time to come. It was no doubt the conviction on the part of the hierarchy of Quebec that the case of Manitoba was a crucial one, involving all the West, that led them to put forth the strenuous efforts which they did, and to call into use such a weapon as the Mandement

which has turned out in their hands to be a boomerang.

The contest has been a great educative instrument, and the people have taught those whom they entrust with power, that they do not approve of and will not submit to the exercise of brute force, the bludgeon and spiritual terrorism in Government. The result is a testimony to the power of right in the hands of a real minority, as the withdrawal of an unjust Education Bill by the powerful Salisbury Government in England, is another. This battle decides for all who can or are willing to understand its meaning, that however other methods may for a time succeed, the only means to rule and guide free men, are not mandements, threats and coercion, but arguments that appeal to their understanding and reason.

The result in Quebec is especially significant. The people of that province have in the past got the name, at least, of being so priest-ridden, the hierarchy in the Mandement brought into play an instrument which so much was both hoped and feared from, that the greatest uncertainty was felt as to the issue. It clearly shows, even if we allow much for their pride of race in Mr. Laurier, that the people have begun to think for themselves, and that they can no longer be terrorized over, or driven like dumb cattle whither their priests and bishops will, by the fear of pains and penalties with which they claim to have power to follow them beyond this world into the next. Quebec French Roman Catholics have raised themselves in the estimation of sound thinking people in every part of the Dominion, and have gained a vantage ground of self-respect which we believe they will never wholly, if at a time they may partially, recede from. The dawn of a brighter day has come to the history of Confederation, that is of the Dominion, in the stand which our French Canadian Roman Catholic fellow citizens have taken at this time.

The causes which have led to this are many, and not of yesterday; they have been quietly operating for a long time past. Among the most potent and obvious on the surface are these. The personality of Mr. Laurier himself; the unimpeachable integrity of his public life; the patience and eloquence with which he has expounded sound principles in the matters which have been at issue in this contest; the noble courage with which he has asserted and exercised the right to think and act for himself in matters political, and the example he has set in this respect. The reaction also must be noticed, which has been gradually growing in the minds of the people, seen in the conduct and language of the press in Quebec against the constant assertion of mere authority by the Church in matters of opinion. We believe too there is, as was stated in our General Assembly, a secret and growing desire on the part of intelligent Roman Catholics themselves, for a better education for their children than they can get in their own schools. And last, but not least, the influence which has been silently but powerfully exercised by the French Evangelization work of our own and other Churches, by means of education, the preaching of the Gospel and circulation of the Scriptures have not been insignificant in bringing about the result which we see in Quebec. In this we have, though a subordinate, yet a weighty argument for the vigorous prosecution of this great work. It is not by force, but only by the quiet, invisible influence of education, secular and religious, that such great changes can be wrought out and be lasting when they come. This process is necessarily slow; but it is the only sure and safe one, and had it not been carried on so patiently, intelligently and persistently as it has, the battle which has been won would have been lost.

The lesson is obvious: to continue patiently, persevering and wisely, in that same course with Protestants, no less than with Roman Catholics, which has led to the result which we believe to be full of hope for all those interests that are best and most vital to the future well-being and well-doing of the Dominion. It cannot but tend to weld the provinces together, and promote Canadian unity and nationality of feeling, that English-speaking and Protestant provinces have joined with Quebec, in calling to the first place of political power both a Frenchman and a Roman Catholic. We feel sure that in Mr. Laurier's hands this power and place will be so used as to continue, and enforce, and justify that spirit of toleration of race and religion, which has been shown in this contest, and which, situated as we are in this Dominion, is one of the most important lessons for us to learn, as it is also one of the most difficult.

Books and Magazines.

Sir J. William Dawson takes the first place in the *Homiletical Review* for July in the third of a series of articles which he has been contributing on "Natural Facts Illustrative of the Biblical Account of the Deluge." Professor Blaikie writes on the never exhausted subject of preaching, and "Responsibility for Error of Opinion" is treated in a second article by E. F. Burr, D.D. Dr. Julius Kaftann is discussed as a theologian. Professor McCurdy continues his articles on "Light on Scriptural Texts from Recent Discoveries." Other important sections are the Sermonic, Illustration, Exegetical and Expository, and Social, and all are varied and well filled. [Funk and Wagnalls Company, 30 Lafayette Place, New York, U.S.]

In *Scribner's* for July, very appropriately for the season, "Coney Island," illustrated, takes first place. "A Thousand Miles through the Alps," also illustrated, will attract the lover of adventure. "Sentimental Tommy," by Barrie, is continued. "A New Art" is an interesting illustrated article showing the improvements which have taken place in Taxidermy. True portraits of J. M. W. Turner, by Cosmo Monkhouse, and "A French Friend of Browning—Joseph Millsand," have each a special personal interest. "In Collision with Fate," and the "Confession of Colonel Sylvester," are lighter reading for those who enjoy it. In "The Point of View," "The Field of Art," and "About the World," the usual variety of subjects is discussed. [Charles Scribner's Sons, New York.]

Rudyard Kipling, as he showed himself to his intimate friends just before he became known to all the world, is the subject of a paper in *McClure's Magazine* for July. It is written by the man with whom Mr. Kipling was associated in the editorship of a newspaper in India. Elizabeth Stuart Phelps contributes intimate and interesting recollections of Longfellow, Whittier, and Holmes. Cleveland Moffett shows the exact status at the present moment of the horseless carriage, and indicates the immense revolution that impends in travel and traffic now that the horseless carriage has practically passed the experimental stage. "Lincoln as a Lawyer" is made up mainly of reminiscences and anecdotes by men who practiced with Lincoln at the bar. "A Coast and a Capture" is a very lively bicycling story. There is also a humorous love story by Robert Barr.

The *Ladies' Home Journal* never loses its place; it is so beautiful in itself and contains so much that is interesting to everyone. The number for July, beginning with "The Home and Personality of Joan of Arc," is profusely illustrated. "Feeding a City like New York" follows. "This Country of Ours" is one of the well-known articles by Ex-President Harrison, and treats of "The Secretary of State." Mrs. A. D. T. Whitney gives her eighth "Friendly Letter to Girls." "The Other Side of Robert Burns," by Arthur Warren will be read with much interest. Rev. Dr. Parkhurst treats of that important subject, "A Young Man's Religious Life," and everything suitable for ladies, young or old, ornamental or useful, will be found noticed in the pages of this excellent magazine. [The Curtis Publishing Company, Philadelphia, Pa., U.S.]

Many very attractive and beautifully illustrated articles are given in *Frank Leslie's Popular Monthly* for July, and also several excellent short stories. The leading feature is a description of General Robert E. Lee's part in the battles of Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville, written by Colonel John J. Garnett, of the Confederate States' Artillery. In "A Glimpse of Dungeness" Frederick A. Ober describes the burial place of "Light-Horse Harry" Lee. Another feature of this number is an article on "Colonial Homes of Virginia," accompanied by more than a dozen pictures. In "The Fotheringay Tragedy," A. Oakley Hall tells of the last days of Mary, Queen of Scots; Prof. Suizbach writes of the University of Heidelberg; a paper on "Canine Warriors" shows the service rendered by dogs on the battlefield; the Isle of Man is described in an interesting article; and Mrs. A. A. Stowe chats entertainingly of the Lick Observatory.

Harper's Magazine for July contains as special features: "General Washington," with eight illustrations, by Woodrow Wilson; "Literary Landmarks of Venice," nine illustrations, by Laurence Hutton; "English Elections," by Hon. Henry Cabot Lodge; "Ohio," by President Charles F. Thwing; "Happiness," by Archibald Lampman. The number also contains four short stories—"The Dowager's Companion," by W. E. Norris; "The Cabinet Organ," by Octave Thanet; "The Love Letters of Superfine Gold," by Julian Ralph; and "A Fool to Fame," by E. A. Alexander. "Two Mormons from Mordley," a three-part novelette of West Virginia, by Langdon Elwyn Mitchell, begins in this number, and John Kendrick Bangs's humorous story of a thwarted author is concluded. Poems by several contributors, and the Editor's Study, and Editor's Drawer contain a variety of comment and anecdote. [Harper Brothers, New York, U.S.]

Godey's Magazine for July begins the 133rd volume of this well-known old publication and is a good specimen of the pioneer in its modern form. The number opens with two timely articles. The first of these is from the pen of a traveller in Persia, and describes, with the aid of numerous pictures, some of the characteristics of that country; while no less timely and interesting is a description of the Training and Life in the New York Fire Department. The consideration of "Music in America" by Rupert Hughes, is continued in an article on The Manuscript Society and its President, Gerrit Smith. That *Godey's* has not lost its individuality as a Lady's Book is shown by the article on "The Silk Industry of Japan" and the usual Fashion Department. Half a dozen contributions give a variety of fiction, the verse is plentiful, and the whole makes up a highly entertaining and readable number for summer reading. [The Godey Company, 52 Lafayette Place, New York.]