

5. That the Church has an unlimited right of possessing property, of acquiring it, and of receiving it by will, even though the family of the testator may be left destitute; and that a Government violates the laws of God if it attempts in any matter to regulate or limit this right.

6. That the abolition of ecclesiastical courts has been a criminal offence against the Church, and that the Pope has a right to ordain that they shall be re-established in Catholic States, and even in Protestant States, since the Pope has jurisdiction over them.

7. That Governments have no right to legislate even respecting the civil portion of marriage, which the Church does not recognize, nor to define the civil consequences of marriage in certain cases.

8. That Governments have not a right to leave the lending of money free, even on articles of commerce, but are canonically bound either to prohibit interest from being demanded, or to establish very restricted rates of interest without any regard for the demand, or for the abundance of capital, or the circumstances of trade.

9. That according to the Papal bulls of excommunication and the authorized commentaries on the Canon Law, a Catholic is not bound to pay a debt to a heretic, or that the Pope has the power to give him a dispensation, or forbid him to pay the debt.

10. That the Pope has the right of granting dispensations from the observance of any oath whatever, political, civil or private; and therefore of freeing citizens from their obedience to the constitution or the law.

11. That the Pope has the right of establishing tribunals of the Inquisition in all Catholic States, whether the Governments are opposed to it or not.

12. That it is lawful to deprive the children of heretics of their property, and in certain cases to take them away from their parents.

13. That Governments are bound, and may be constrained by ecclesiastical censures to refuse heretics the public exercise of their religion.

14. That the fear of an *unjust* excommunication is a sufficient reason to justify a man in the non-performance of a duty.

15. That ecclesiastics are essentially subjects of the Pope, and are fundamentally bound to submit to him alike in things ecclesiastical and civil; and that they ought to regard their obligation to render him passive obedience as superior to their rights and duties as citizens of their native country, or of the country in which they live under the protection of the law.

16. That the Pope being unable to reconcile himself to *modern civilization and progress*, it is neces-

sary, as often as a Pope or a theologian dignified with the epithet of *illustrious*, declares one of the achievements of civilization hostile to the supremacy of the clergy over the temporal power, to fling this achievement aside, and change such laws as displease the Pope or the theologian, whether illustrious or not.

We omit Mr. Dessaulles' running commentary on these propositions. Of the propositions themselves the only one which we should be inclined to think overstated is the ninth. At least we should expect the evidence in support of it to be drawn mainly from the doctrines and practice of the Church of Rome in a by-gone age. It is true that by the assumption of Infallibility Rome takes upon herself an abiding responsibility for all that she has ever done.

The struggle in Lower Canada is evidently internecine. The Liberals are overwhelmingly outnumbered, and equally overmatched in political and social influence, and in the power of wealth. But they have the power of intellect on their side, as well as the forces of science and of modern civilization. We do not think they will be extinguished. They are not near extinction when they produce such a champion as Mr. Dessaulles.

POPULAR LECTURES ON SCIENTIFIC SUBJECTS.

By H. Helmholtz, Professor of Physics in the University of Berlin. Translated by E. Atkinson, Ph.M.D., F.C.S. New York: D. Appleton and Company. 1873.

Originally Military Physician in the Prussian service, then Professor of Physiology in the University of Königsberg, then occupant of the same chair in the University of Heidelberg, and now Professor of Physics in the University of Berlin, Helmholtz merits the character which he has received of being "the first head in Europe since the death of Jacobi." Still in the prime of life, he is in the rare position, as regards modern men of science, of having attained to high eminence in no less than three distinct departments of learning, being equally distinguished as a physiologist, a physicist, and a mathematician, and having earned the reputation of being one of the most accomplished experimenters of the day. The present work purports to be a series of "Popular Lectures" on scientific subjects, and it really is what its title expresses, since it treats of various subjects of scientific interest in an entirely untechnical manner. Indeed, it is very rare, and especially rare in Germany, to meet with such a combination of profound erudition with the utmost clearness of thought and expression—a clearness in which Helmholtz is at least the equal of Tyndall. It may be added