

same course was followed by Mgr. Panet, the maternal uncle of the late lamented Cardinal Taschereau.

« Then, again, in the regrettable days of 1837-38, it was Mgr. Signay, in Quebec, and one of your predecessors, Mgr. Lartigue, in Montreal, who interfered in the name of religion, to quiet the fratricidal struggles of the hour ; an act of loyalty which frequently brought down upon them the censure of a number of their fellow-countrymen : a sacred duty which they had to perform, notwithstanding the voice of their blood-ties and of their paternal solicitude. Later on, we find Mgr. Baillargeon, indicating for all who listened to him, a similar line of conduct, in regard to the invading Fenians, and Mgr. Taché, who at a critical moment, calmed the Metis and kept them attached to England.

« And, if I would make bold to refer to myself, I might repeat that which I stated in the heart of France, in the Cathedral of Rheims — on the occasion of the grand celebration of the XIVth centenary of the baptism of Clovis and of the Franks—that, while ever preserving our affection for the olden motherland, we are happy to live under the shadow of the British flag, and that we inhabit one of the most free countries on earth. »

And further on he adds : —

« If ever — and please God never! — the question of annexation to the United States should be seriously agitated, it would be curious to note the respective attitudes of the two races—Anglo-Canadians and French-Canadians — in presence of such an eventuality. I am confident that we would not have to blush for our people on such an occasion, for they would again know how to fulfil their duty as loyal subjects of Her Britannic Majesty. »

Such is the noble language of Mgr. Bégin.