

people of the other provinces have no adequate conception, for the Catholics they have intercourse with have had the teaching of their Church modified by education, by coming in contact with neighbors of other creeds, and by the insensible effect the reflected light of Protestantism has had upon them. There are counties in Quebec where natives may be found who never saw a Protestant: counties which are Catholic with the exception of one, two, or three families. For instance, the census of 1911 showed that in the county of Bellechasse, out of its 21,141 inhabitants there were only 3 Protestants, in Kamouraska, 12 Protestants to 20,876 Catholics, in Nicolet, 24 Protestants to 30,029 Catholics, in Wright 68 Protestants to 40,263 Catholics. The census showed in the entire Province there were 1,724,683 Catholics and 225,354 Protestants, of whom 180,000 dwell in the island of Montreal, leaving 45,000 only for the remainder of the Province. There was forty years ago a section of that Province, known as the Eastern Townships, which were English and constituted a stronghold of Protestantism. The priests have made what they term "a peaceable conquest" of those townships. At Confederation there were 16 constituencies which could elect Protestants. To-day there is only one, the county of Brome. From earliest childhood the habitants have been taught to regard the priests as another class from themselves—as men selected by God, who are the sole medium of conveying to mankind the salvation wrought by Christ. Believing thus, the priests use them as they may design, a huge mass they can roll in the direction they wish. The priests could not look upon the laity thus were it not that they voluntarily cut the ties which bind society together, crushed the affections which are the noblest attributes of humanity, fled from obligations which at once constitute the units out of which nations are built and which develop in men and women the purest manifestations of self-sacrifice. What is the purpose of this army of twenty thousand unsexed men and women that stands daily on duty in the Province of Quebec? Is it not to extend the power of the Church whose uniform they wear and whose bread they eat? The ambitions of those whom they regard as worldlings, their affections, pursuits, and employ-