

a wing of St. Peter's. The Pope himself is President. The Bishops and Cardinals present number about 700; while the host of subordinates is very great. There has not been such an assemblage since the Council of Trent. Opposition to the programme of the Council is offered by the Archbishop of Paris, by some other illustrious Frenchmen, and by learned and influential Roman Catholic Divines, Professors, and Bishops in Germany. Especially noteworthy is the opposition of Dr. Dollinger, of Pere Hyacinthe, and of Montalembert,—great and brilliant men who have done more than any others in Europe to make the Papal Church respected in the world of literature and intelligence. Division now rages in the heart of the Church as it has not done for three hundred years. The organized forces of Popery are all on the side of the Jesuits and their programme. They are very likely to succeed in getting the doctrines above named raised to the dignity of *dogmas*; but it will be the dearest victory ever won in the Church. There is a powerful liberal Catholic element in every continental nation that cannot take meekly down such absurdities as the "bodily assumption" of Mary, the personal infallibility of the Bishop of Rome, or his supreme authority over the earth in matters civil as well as sacred. A break-up is inevitable. The Pope denounces the "Spirit of the Age," but he and his Jesuits will find it far too potent to be exorcised or treated with contempt. It is not in vain that God's Word has been circulated for the last three hundred years. Protestants generally have offered special prayer on behalf of those who are under the sway of Romish superstition. Let such supplications be continued until the Lord destroy the Man of Sin with the brightness of His appearing.

SABBATH SCHOOLS.

At the last meeting of Synod there was a short but earnest discussion of the subject of Sabbath Schools and their requirements. The importance of the Sabbath School was admitted on every hand. The children must be cared for, instructed, gathered into

the Redeemer's fold, built up in our holy faith. The Committee on Sabbath Schools were instructed to prepare a scheme of lessons for 1870. This has been done by the Committee, and the "Lessons" are now ready to be delivered. They can be ordered from the "Record" office, Halifax.—Price Fifty cents per hundred. Notes on these Lessons appear from month to month in the *Record*; and these Notes are respectfully commended to the attention of Superintendents and Teachers.

The Synod devoted some attention to the Books that should be in the Libraries of our Sabbath Schools. This is a reading age; and it is assumed that hardly any Sabbath School can live, much less can it thrive, without books. The selection of Sabbath School Books is a matter of the greatest importance. Some members of the Committee have devoted time and care for many years to the selection of good books; but it is felt that more help is required. The Synod recommended ministers to send lists of books that they could confidently recommend to the Convener of the Committee, in order that such lists should be published in the *Record*.

It is possible to get a large Library of really good, trustworthy, readable Books; but no one knows till he makes the experiment how hard it is to select 200 or 300 volumes for a Sabbath School Library.—What we want is that ministers would give the Committee the benefit of their experience and judgment, and help the Committee to make out a list of approved books, to the number, say, of 1000 volumes. This list would aid Sabbath School Teachers and Superintendents in making their selections.

Sabbath School Papers are now so numerous and so widely circulated that great care should be exercised in selecting those that should be placed in our children's hands. The taste of children is being formed under our guidance; and that taste cannot fail to influence their character for time and eternity. There are a few books that should be in every child's hands. At the head of the list must be placed a well bound, well printed copy of the *Bible*, with