

the "difficulties of Romanism," for the purpose of comparing them together, and weighing them against each other, in the balance of the Sanctuary; and having solemnly resolved to decide for eternity, according to my sincere convictions, and in view of the judgment seat of Christ, I cannot entertain the slightest doubt that I was acting under the guidance of God's Holy Spirit, in embracing the communion of the Holy Roman Catholic and Apostolic Church.

In conclusion, I am deeply convinced that all the efforts of human reasoning, on the subject of religion, are but preparatory to the work of divine grace in the soul. All that we can do is, to assist in removing the intellectual difficulties which obstruct the entrance of truth into the understanding, but it belongs to God alone to enlighten the mind with the precious gift of faith, and to produce such a degree of supernatural conviction on the heart as may lead to a public profession of the Catholic Faith, and a full appreciation of the inestimable blessings which are to be enjoyed in union with that one mysterious Society, which has ever continued the faithful representative of Christ's Holy Catholic Church on earth.

I pray that God would grant us, by the light of His Holy Spirit, to have a right judgment in all things,—and I remain, my Lord, with much esteem,

Yours very faithfully,

EDMUND MATURIN.

Halifax, Nova Scotia,  
December 10, 1859.