

more of Europe than six years' study of that which was once the European tongue."

Passing from Europe to Canada, if the productions of native authors in law and theology, in biography, and science, in history, and poetry, and fiction, such names as Garneau, Faucher de St. Maurice, Benjamin Sulte, Joseph Marmette, Chapman, etc., are less known than they should be, and if antagonism to England shows itself where it can give point to a "parish standard" of patriotism, yet French-Canadian literature is, at least, free from the charge of moral impurity.

After all, there is a darker side to this. No type of literature is more popular and influential than fiction; and it is well to remember a sentence from Prof. Goldwin Smith on what he calls "the bad tobacco of the mind." He says: "As to French novels, Carlyle says of one of the most famous of the last century, that after reading it you ought to wash seven times in Jordan; but after reading the French novels of the present day, in which lewdness is sprinkled with sentimental rose-water, and deodorized, but by no means disinfected, your washings had better be seventy times seven."

But the French language bears about with it a danger more insidious and far-reaching, because less sure to provoke disgust and a reaction. The history of Canada presents Frenchmen as some of the foremost in contending for popular government, when English-Canadians were content without it; yet a philological examination of French, and a wide survey of French history, shows that the language lacks the elements that train to a self-mastering and progressive individualism, without which popular government cannot be permanent. By its genius, by its Latin affinities, by its history and literature, French leans to the purely authoritative religion of the Church of Rome. That multitudinist form of religion puts no high estimate, in religious life, on individual intelligence, and is, therefore, everywhere followed by illiteracy and its concomitant evils. The skilful manipulation of the returns of education in the census of 1881, in the interests of French Canada, and to