

our Apostolic Faith—one spirit and one soul pervade the whole body, without distinction of native or foreign born. (u) Besides, nativism had nothing to do with the question at issue, and is rather a *foreign element* itself when brought repeatedly to bear—as a conclusive argument—against the liberty of conscience, which is involved in the present Common School System. It strikes me that in a colony where thousands of foreigners are yearly pouring upon our shores—to the great benefit of our young country—nativism is rather out of place, or at least too premature for the time being. At all events, the native flag should not have been hoisted by the Reverend Chief of Education, who is naturally expected to keep aloof from all political platforms.

Tries to excuse Bishops McDonnell and Power.

Your adversary is not more fortunate, in his oft repeated attempts to throw on his side the whole moral weight of the late Bishops McDonnell and Power. The most he could have said with any truth, was that they tolerated to a certain extent what they could not prevent; but to pretend that they were favourable to mixed education, is injurious to their honored memory, and untrue in point of fact. (v) Need I say that it is notorious that both these zealous prelates labored most faithfully and strenuously—in their own times—to establish thorough Catholic Schools whenever and wherever circumstances permitted them. The fact of Bishop Power being a member of the Board only shows his desire of giving a fair trial to a new system, concerning which many a time have I heard him express his misgivings, but the deplorable results of which his lamentable and premature death prevented him from witnessing and rebuking. As for his venerable successor he did what his conscience prompted him to do as soon as he felt that he could no longer countenance the wholesale sacrifice of Catholic interests and principles, which he is bound to uphold to the utmost of his power; and so would have done both the above-named Bishops, as well as any other.

Endorses Mr. Bruyere.

Concerning what you have said about Public Libraries, the question is not whether you were right or wrong with regard to the exact number of Catholic books said to be on their shelves, but whether you had good ground for denouncing them as dangerous to faith and morals. Now, most emphatically do I endorse your sound views on this question, for we can hardly be less opposed to mixed Libraries than to mixed education,—the same principles of faith and morals being equally involved in both systems. Witness the scandalous problem extracted by you from one of the standard books issued by the Department of Education. And God knows how many other passages no less objectionable might be brought to light by a careful perusal of the various books connected both with Public Libraries and Common Schools.

It behoves, therefore, the pastors of the Church to warn the flock committed to their care against seeking such noxious and poisonous pastures as are held out by these Public Libraries, so warmly patronized by our Reverend official.

(u) Strange, that one spirit and soul should require "mortal sins," and clerical dictation, as to votes, &c.!

(v) And yet Bishop Power acted as Chairman of the Board of Education and signed circulars in favor of the school system, recommending the education of native teachers, and the use of the Irish National Books in Canadian Schools.