

CHINIQUEY VS. CHINIQUEY.

HE OF FIFTY YEARS AGO AND HE OF TO-DAY.

A Methodist Preacher Confounded and
Convicted of Ignorance and False-
hood by the Notorious
Apostate.

Translated from the French.

(CONTINUED FROM LAST WEEK.)

MR. ROUSSY.—Mr. Chairman—Nothing is easier for me to prove than that the Bible, and the Bible alone, and not tradition, is the rule for every man who desires to work out his salvation.

Moses says expressly in the book of Deuteronomy (chap. iv, verses 2 and 5) "Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the Lord your God which I command you."

"Behold, I have taught you statutes and judgments, even as the Lord my God commanded me, that ye should do so in the land whither ye go to possess it."

This is very precise:—"Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it." Is it not a fact, Mr. Chairman, that in this passage there is nothing in favor of tradition.

In the book of Joshua (chap. i, v. 7 and 8) God speaking to this leader of His people, says to Him:—"Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses, My servant, commanded thee; turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest."

"This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein."

We read also the following words in the book of Nehemiah (chap. viii, v. 2, 3, and 8) "And Ezra the priest brought the law before the congregation both of men and women, and all that could hear with understanding, upon the first day of the seventh month."

"And he read therein before the street that was before the water gate from the morning till mid-day, before the men and women, and all those that could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive unto the book of the law."

"So they read in the book in the law of God distinctly, and gave the sense and caused them to understand the reading."

The 119th Psalm, which is the longest as well as the most beautiful of all the Psalms, is nothing but a repetition of the great advantage of constant meditation on the law of the Lord.

What does God tell us by the voice of the Prophet Isaiah, if not to have His holy law instantly before our eyes and in our heart. These are the exact words of the holy Prophet (chap. viii, v. 19 and 20): "And when they shall say unto you, Seek unto them that have familiar spirits, and unto wizards that peep and that mutter; should not a people seek unto their God? For the living to the dead? To the law and to the testimony; if they speak not according to this word it is because there is no light in them."

But let us leave the Old Testament and the prophets; we have seen that they are unanimous in inviting us to meditate and study without ceasing the law of the Lord. They do not say so of Tradition. Coming then to Our Lord Jesus Christ and to His Holy Gospel; we shall see that they are still more precise in urging us to study the law of the Lord, and to avoid the traditions of men.

In St. Matthew (chap. xv, v. 3) Jesus Christ answers the Pharisees: "Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition?" Is not the doctrine of tradition condemned here by the mouth of Christ Himself?

In St. John (chap. v, v. 39) does not our Lord positively say: "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life; and they are they which testify of me."

And what can more positively show us the necessity and utility of reading and constantly meditating on the holy scriptures, than this text from the Acts of the Apostles (chap. xvii, v. 11 and 12)—"These [Jews of Berea] were more noble than those of Thessalonica in

that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so. Therefore many of them believed; also of honorable women which were Greeks and of men, not a few." You can see by all this what must be thought of a church which deprives its followers of the holy scriptures to amuse them with its traditions! And St. John in the Revelation (chap. xxii, v. 18 and 19), does he not say that those are cursed by God who add to or take away one word of the book of this prophecy. Is not this a striking proof that God wishes that we should be guided by nothing but the written words in His holy Gospel, and that He has a horror for the traditions of men?

MR. CHINIQUEY.—Mr. Chairman—It was the custom of our dear old grandmothers to frighten little children by childish tales. It seems that it is also the custom amongst reformers of religion to imagine dark and dismal stories with which they horrify and amuse their dupes. Amongst these alarming histories, with which every echo from the so-called reformed countries resounds, the most ridiculous, the most absurd, and the most false, is without contradiction, that with which Mr. Roussy has appeared engrossed during the long list of texts which he has just read to us, I don't really know why. Mr. Roussy has so many times heard his old grandmother tell the story that we Catholics are the enemies of the word of God, and that we abhor the Holy Bible, that he firmly believes it. But in reality this is one of the ancient tales for which educated Protestants blush.

Who preserved intact the sacred trust of the Holy Scriptures during the fifteen hundred years which preceded the lewd apostates, Luther and Calvin, if it was not the Catholic Church? Before these two monsters of impurity had troubled the peace of the world and deceived people by their sophisms and their errors of all kinds; before there was a single Protestant in the world even, the Catholic Church not only preserved the sacred writings as her most precious treasure, but she neglected no possible means of spreading their knowledge amongst the people of the world. During the short space of time which had elapsed between the wonderful invention of printing and the day that Luther published his first Bible, from seventy-five to eighty editions of the Bible, translated into the different languages of Europe, and forming not less than two hundred thousand copies, had been circulated amongst the people, with the authorization, and often at the expense, of the Catholic ecclesiastical authorities. If the Church, during a few years, was obliged to put certain restrictions on the diffusion and reading of the Bible in modern languages, the Protestants alone were the cause of it. These sectaries had so changed the text in their false translations; they had by their ignorance, or rather by the corruption of their minds and hearts so poisoned this source of life, that those coming to drink of it found in it rather the death than the life of their souls. Europe was for a time inundated with bibles in which the true text, by the acknowledgment even of well educated Protestants, disappeared to give place to the senseless and impious dreams of the sectaries. Then, but then alone, the Church, rightly fearing, or rather, seeing that those falsified bibles were being taken for the true word of God, put some restrictions for a time on the reading of the Bible in modern languages. She did then what wise and able physicians do in times of epidemics; they forbid us certain foods which are excellent at other times, but which become dangerous on account of the impure disposition of the air or of our temperaments. But never has the Church shackled the diffusion of the Holy Bible in the Greek or Latin text. Now, at that time, nearly everybody who knew how to read understood Greek or Latin; for these two languages were taught then far more even than they are to-day, in all the principle schools of Europe. But the unhappy epoch when a deplorable epidemic forced the Church of Jesus Christ to take this extreme measure to prevent the contagion of evil attacking the very heart of the nations, was not of long duration. The devouring fever which Satan had, by the hands of Luther and Calvin, infused into the veins of Europe, had scarcely lost its intensity and contagion, when the Church once more invited the nations to nourish their souls by the reading of the Holy Bible, and put it within the reach of all by the innumerable authorized

translations, which She recommended everywhere by the voice of Her chief pastor.

Certain Protestants still repeat that the Church forbids the reading of the Holy Bible by the people; this is a cowardly and absurd lie, and it is only the ignorant or the silly amongst Protestants, who to-day still believe this ancient imposition of heresy; unscrupulous ministers who are constantly throwing it before the eyes of their dupes to impose upon them and to keep them in a holy horror of what they call Popery. Let Protestants make the tour of Europe and America; let them go into the numerous Catholic book-stores they will come across at every step; let them, for instance, go to Montreal, to Mr. Fabre's or to Mr. Sadlier's; and everywhere they will find on their shelves thousands of Bibles in every modern language, printed with the permission of the Ecclesiastical authorities. I hold in my hand a New Testament, printed less than five years ago, at Quebec. On the first page I read the following approbation of the Archbishop of Quebec:

"We approve and recommend to the faithful of our Diocese this translation of the New Testament, with commentaries on the text and notes at the foot of the pages."

—† JOS. ARCHBISHOP OF QUEBEC."

Every one of these Catholic Bibles, to be found on sale at every bookseller's in Europe or America is in the same manner an irrefutable witness that Protestantism is fed on lies, when day by day it listens with complacency to its ministers and its newspapers, telling it in various strains, that we, Catholics, are the enemies of the Bible.

Mr. Roussy has told us that the reading of the Bible was the sole means taught by Christ and His Apostles for the conversion of the world. Mr. Roussy obtains, probably, as all Protestants do, this new idea from his good old grandmother. But, Mr. Chairman, you must see that never was a greater absurdity issued from the mouth of man. It is incredible that men, who are continually talking to us of Bibles and Bibles, do not know that Jesus Christ has said to His Apostles: "Go ye into the whole world and preach the Gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be condemned" (St. Mark, xvi, 15 and 16.) And in St. Matthew, (chap. xxviii, 18, 19 and 20) Jesus, speaking to his eleven disciples, says to them: "All power is given to me in heaven and in earth. Going, therefore, teach ye all nations; baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and behold I am with you all days, even to the consummation of the world."

It is not, we see, a book that the Apostles are charged to write, to read to the people to the consummation of the world. But their mission is to take the form of verbal preaching, and in which mission the Divine Savior promises them to assist them and to guide them, not during thirty, forty or sixty years, but to the consummation of the world. It is by the preaching of the Apostles to the people, and not by the reading of the Gospel by the people that Jesus Christ wishes men should be enlightened and saved, to the consummation of the world. And this is why the Catholic priesthood, sole possessors of the mission given to the first Apostles, teaches, preaches and explains the Gospel to the people. Jesus Christ has not said: "He that does not read the Gospel, shall be condemned." That is an absurdity and a falsehood which can have only issued from hell itself; but Jesus Christ has said to his Apostles for all time: "Preach the Gospel; teach all nations; I shall be with you; he that heareth you heareth Me; he that despiseth you, despiseth Me; he that believeth on your preaching shall be saved; he that believeth it not shall be lost."

Jesus Christ has not said: If you do not read the Bible you shall be regarded as the heathen and the publican; but He has said: If you do not hear the Church you shall be as the heathen and the publican. (St. Matthew, xviii, 17.)

It is then a Church that Jesus Christ came on earth to found, not a book that he came to have written and read. The Gospel is the property of the Church, it is one of its sacred trusts, it is one of its greatest treasures. She it is who is charged to preserve it and to explain its pages to the people. For it is to her alone and not to individuals that the promise was made and the mission given.

To say that Jesus Christ and his Apostles wished, by the reading of the Bible, interpreted by each individual, that the nations should be converted, is so great an absurdity, that I have the greatest difficulty in conceiving how a self respecting man can possibly allow it to fall from his lips.

Every body knows that before the invention of printing, books were just as scarce and expensive, as they are to-day common and cheap. For 1400 years after Jesus Christ, everything had to be written by hand. Now to write a whole Bible would require a great deal of time. Amongst many nations, almost constantly at war, very few persons knew how to write. We know of even the names of several powerful kings, who did not know how to sign their names. To have so large a book written, it was necessary to pay an enormous sum of money. It was therefore absolutely impossible for the great majority of Christians for 1400 years to own Bibles and to read them. We also learn from history that previous to the invention of printing it was the custom for people to tax themselves in order to obtain a Bible, which was then deposited in the Church, where the Priest would read some part of it every Sunday, and explain it to the people.

It was not by the reading of the Bible, but it was by the preaching of Apostles sent by the Church of Jesus Christ, that the French, the English, the Germans, the Spanish, the Irish, the Greeks, the Romans, and all other nations were converted to Christianity; for amongst these different nations very few persons knew how to read, and a very much smaller number indeed had the means with which to procure a Bible. Let Mr. Roussy deny these facts, if he dares.

Well since it is admitted as an ascertained fact that it was the will of Jesus Christ that His Church should march on to the conquest of souls by means of preaching for 1500 years, it devolves on Mr. Roussy to show us a single text in his Bible, which informs us that Jesus Christ decided that the reading of the Bible by each individual, ought to take the place of this preaching, at any period whatever during the life of the Church.

It is clear that if Mr. Roussy's system were based on the truth, Jesus Christ would have commanded his Apostles, not to preach the Gospel till the end of the world, but to teach the nations how to read and to give them Bibles. And instead of Apostles, it would have been School-masters that he would have promised and sent to the nations sitting in the darkness of the shadow of death.

(To be continued.)

REMEDY FOR PEOPLE WITH A VEIN OF POETRY IN THEM.—"I know I've got a vein of poetry in me, sir," confidently asserted the young man to the editor, "and all I want is a chance to bring it out. What would you suggest, sir?" "I think you had better see a doctor and have it lanced."

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Births, Marriages and Deaths.

BIRTH.

BELAIR—On Nov. 23rd, at 488 Hypolite street, the wife of Mr. Felix Belair, of twins, girls.

MARRIED.

BRUNEL—FINLEY—At Ottawa, on the 21st Nov., by the Rev. Dr. Filatre, O. M. L. W. N. Brunel, C. P. R. Co., to Gertrude Finley. FITZGIBBONS—LYONS—At Kingston, on Nov. 22, by the Rev. Fr. Neville, Mr. Thomas Fitzgibbons to Miss Katie Lyons. TUCKER—MARKEY—At St. Patrick's Church, on Nov. 22, 1892, by the Rev. Father Quinlan, Frederick Tucker, of North Creek N.S., to Maggie Markey, of this city.

DIED.

BEAUDOIN—In this city, on the 21st Nov., Aureline Morin, beloved wife of the late Adolphe Beaudoin. DONNELLY—In this city, on the 23rd inst., James Donnelly, aged 85 years, a native of County Tyrone, Ireland. HENNESSEY—At Hamilton, on Nov. 19, James Hennessey, aged 68 years. HEFFERAN—At St. John N.B., on Nov. 20th, Anne, beloved wife of Philip Hefferan, Jr., in the 22nd year of her age. LAFORTUNE—In this city, on Nov. 22, Napoleon Lafortune, ex-merchant tailor, aged 24 years and 7 months. MCCARTHY—At Detroit, Mich., on the 23rd inst., Callaghan McCarthy, aged 72 years, a native of Co. Kerry, Ireland, and for many years a resident of Montreal. O'NEILL—At Hamilton, on Nov. 19, Francis Owen Roe, youngest son of Mary and John O'Neill, aged 19 days. O'SHEA—At Toronto, on the 20th November, James A. O'Shea. PAGE—In this city, on the 22nd November, Antoine Page, aged 57 years, 11 months and 21 days.