

The next day saw a letter in the London "Daily Post," in which the writer used the following language :

"Father Fallon, of Canada, has touched a sore point in the Coronation Oath. Catholics have long held this oath in abhorrence. It matters little to them whether the monarch takes an oath or not; their allegiance is stereotyped. But has Cæsar no obligations? If Catholics are expected to do homage to their ruler on his coronation day and after, surely they are not to be insulted by having dinned into their ears on such solemn occasion that their principal religious rite is superstitious and idolatrous?

Canadians are justified in protesting against the terms of this oath, which not alone contains an insult to them, but to the six million Roman Catholics over whom the British Monarch exercises authority in these isles.

Non-conformists, Jews, Buddhists, Mahommedans, and every other class of religionists have their religious observance respected; not so the Roman Catholic, whose sensitiveness is of no account, and whose religious opinions are in this fashion treated with insult. The Coronation Oath is an anachronism and it requires revision."

The London Tablet, of December 17th, contained a letter in which a lawyer of the Supreme Court of Judicature in England, wrote :

"I hope from the bottom of my heart that the question raised in Canada concerning the Coronation Oath will not be suffered to rest where it is. . . . Catholics should unite to remove by all legitimate and constitutional means those out-of-date provisions of the reign of William and Mary, the like of which no British statesman would dream of enacting in the year 1898 with reference to the religions of Buddha and Mahomet."

And the Liverpool Catholic Times, of the same date, reproduced the Ottawa cablegram with the following editorial comment:

"We think this declaration is permitted to remain because the Catholics of the Empire are too tolerant. If the Catholics of Great Britain and Ireland and Canada and the colonies declared with one voice that it must go, go it would."

Friends in Liverpool and Dublin sent me those papers, and then I felt it a duty to suggest further and organized action. The members of the Executive Committee of the Catholic Truth Society were unanimous in their decision to make an appeal to the public sense of justice and equality, in their effort to have blotted from the statute-books this abjuration by the monarch on a most striking occasion, and in terms most unnecessary and offensive, of the