

and prosperity of our country. Every careful observer, we think, will come to the conclusion that there is one, and only one, remedy for this disorder. *The Church and the State must become independent of each other.* This we know will revolutionize much that now exists. It would involve the abolition of tithes, taxing for ecclesiastical purposes, separate schools, religious teaching in the public schools and exemption from taxation of ecclesiastical property. We see no reason why the Dominion of Canada should not have one national system of education. We see no reason whatever why the education of the people should not be transferred from the local government to the central government. We think the education that suits the people of Ontario would be as well adapted to the people of all the other Provinces. Education must be secularized. It would be beneficial to the Church and the school that the latter should be emancipated from Church control. It is true the charge of godlessness will be hurled at such schools. But surely the study of Language, Literature, History, Mathematics, Man, Nature is not a godless pursuit. That many if not all of our great factories are not opened and closed with religious services does not constitute them godless institutions.

*It is beyond all doubt that religious instruction is the most necessary and important to the youth of any country.* It is true that with no book should the children be more familiar than with the Bible. It is the function of the Church to impart religious instruction. It is time we gave up looking to the State for it. It is not the function of the Civil Government to impart Religious Instruction. In asking it to do so the Church is departing from the spirit of Christianity. Where the Civil Government attempts to teach Religious Truth it encroaches upon a field which does not belong to it and it will surely fail. Many believe doctrines like these are dangerous and irreligious. Is the state to recognize no Religion? If not what is to become of all we cherish so highly? What will become of Christianity if it is ignored by the State? In reply to this we would ask, what became of Christianity when the State not only ignored Christianity but used its great power to destroy it? It grew, remained pure and advanced in its conquering career. Where it sought the alliance and patronage of the State it became corrupt and perverted. There is now, in Ontario, much discussion in reference to Religious Instruction in the Public Schools. So long as we have Separate Schools there is no reason why the Bible should not be taught in the Public Schools. Many maintain that Separate Schools have come to stay. If they