

faithful adherents of the Church of Rome, and enjoyed the confidence, if nothing more, of the Roman Bishop and clergy of that territory.

Emboldened by these successes, and by the course of the English Premier, we observe that the Roman Catholics, in several of our Canadian cities and towns, are beginning to petition the Queen to interfere for the restoration of the Pope to his temporal sovereignty, and we presume it is the intention to circulate such petitions for signature throughout the Dominion. The impudence is truly sublime! But if our fellow-subjects of that persuasion would only reflect for a moment, we think they would pause before taking such a step. It is certainly paying but a very poor compliment to the Holy Father to make such an application, as if his own devoted children, and *quondam* subjects, in the Romagna—not to say anything of the hundred and forty millions under his spiritual sway in other parts of the world—either couldn't or wouldn't do anything for him, and had left him at the mercy of heretical, excommunicated England! They are forcing the suspicion upon us, that possibly, after all, the people of Italy don't wish his benignant authority, or they would themselves invite him to resume it. But they are also asking Her Majesty to do a thing which *it would be worth her crown to attempt!* The temper of the British people ensures the defeat of their petition, for, with the *Watchman*, we believe "there is a limit to the 'squeezeable' quality both of Ministers and Members of Parliament. Surely there are some men who will at last stand firm, and resist the ceaseless encroachments of Rome. The Government—and not only this present, but *any* English Administration—will do well to remember that all the support purchased by truckling with Popery is obtained at the cost of alienating men whom it is well worth while *not* to offend. If England is to continue a Protestant country, the time appears to be approaching when the electors must interfere in earnest, must take all these questions out of the hands of Governments, and return to Parliament none but men on whom they can rely to withstand the Jesuit enemies of Great Britain. Otherwise, political expediency, the temptations of office and the Catholic vote will continue to prevail, and England will, ere long, be governed mainly as Romanists please. And we are beginning to think that if the battle must be fought, it had better be fought without much further delay, before Popery has gained additional vantage-ground for the contest."