

sion of heretics, but only at the exclusion of intruders. The Quakers, who were the greatest sufferers, thrust themselves on the settlements for the very purpose of disturbance. So completely in those days was morality, public as well as private, bound up with religious belief, that it may be doubted whether, without a system of religious discipline such as we should justly condemn as intolerant, it would have been possible to sustain, among bands of wanderers, generally restless and unsubmissive, the political order which was destined to be the organizing force of society in the New World. In the meantime these not unredeemed bigots were founding the system of public schools. Torquemada did not found a system of public schools, nor did Sheldon; nor did the Royal Governors of Colonies in which there were no Puritans.

—The Hon. Alexander Morris has given us a collection of the Treaties with the Indians in the North-West, of which he was a principal framer, and he has added some valuable remarks on that dark subject, the future of the tribes. We have reason to be thankful, so far, for the character of our relations with these people, at least since Canada has been in any measure her own mistress. The early missionaries of Christianity going forth among the barbarous tribes of the North implanted in them, together with a new religion, the germs of a higher civilization, and made them the progenitors of Christendom. This is about the only page of light in the dark history of the dealings of civilized with uncivilized races; and the higher the civilization on one side the more fatal seems the contact to the other. But if the Indian, in presence of the Canadian, has died, he has not been murdered: he has not been poisoned or stalked as a noxious animal like the Australasian or the Kaffir; he has not been goaded into war and butchered for the sake of his land like the Maori and the Zulu. Slight symptoms of trouble in the North-West perhaps there have been; but so far it has been found that fidelity to treaties and kind con-