

The Foreign Element.

The poor attempt of the Reverend Official, to represent you as the organ of but a contemptible *foreign party*—with which the body of Catholics in Canada, has no common sympathy—is altogether unfair and groundless; so much so, that I do not hesitate to say—and I say it advisedly—that you have undoubtedly expressed the views of the entire Hierarchy in Canada—nay, of the whole Catholic Church. Any one at all conversant with Catholic unity, is aware that—on the subject of Catholic Education, as well as on any other involving Catholic principles—pastors and flocks are always one. (s)

The Church forbids, and the People submit.

Has not the principle of the godless Common School system been repeatedly declared *dangerous to faith and morals*, by our own Provincial Councils, by the Councils of Ireland, more especially by the celebrated Council of Thurles—convened and presided over by the Right Rev. Dr. Cullen, delegate of the Holy See—and finally by the Sovereign Pontiff himself? Hence it is that the Catholic body, which believes in the unerring authority of the Church in all questions appertaining to faith and morals, never will, because conscience forbids it, approve and countenance this Common School system, as now imposed upon us in this section of the Province. (t) The least, therefore, that we can do, Rev. Dear Sir, is to offer you our well deserved thanks for the noble stand you have taken, and for your very able defence of Catholic education, and this despite your unusually arduous occupations during the protracted absence of your venerable ordinary.

“Foreign Element” not a dignified Expression.

And here, I sincerely regret to be under the painful necessity to express my utter disapprobation of the unbecoming language used by the Chief Superintendent of Education, when speaking of my most honored Brother in the Episcopacy. Such flippant expressions as these—*the Charbonnells and Bruyeres, a new foreign element*, and others,—repeatedly brought forward, as it were with a vengeance—imply a disregard of decorum which we certainly should not have expected from an official of the Government, much less from the Head of the *Education Office*.

“Nativism” (Catholic Expression) out of Place.

It is a painful duty for me to be compelled to administer such a rebuke to a gentleman, whom I would fain honor for his high station, and would gladly eulogise—if I could—for his impartiality. I cannot but be grateful to him for the courtesy he has shown me, when on a recent occasion—which he has alluded to in his first reply—I consulted him about the Separate School Bill; but his courtesy in *private* life must not prevent me from censuring his *official* misdemeanor. How a gentleman in his station—evidently well read—could have betrayed in the above Controversy such ignorance of Catholic matters, and such a gross disregard of Catholic feelings, I am really at a loss to understand. But be this as it may, you have said enough to teach him, that *in the Church*, there is no foreign element, and that—in virtue of the all powerful unity of

(s) Save when the “flocks” exhibit half-heathenish propensities.

(t) And which the Bishop does not support, because he has a Separate School of his own in London.

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