

brains. I shall not repeat here historical facts that we all learned at school, but I am bound to say that we, French Canadians, taken as a separate element of the population, and not individually, have never committed a single act of disloyalty to the British Crown. The revolt of 1837 was not by any means a unanimous rebellion. Only a handful of habitants took part in it. Some of our leaders, notably Lafontaine, opposed it. It was not limited to our part of the country. There were then just as many rebels in Upper as in Lower Canada. The descendants of some of those traitors have since succeeded very well in parliamentary life. The Roman Catholic Clergy of Quebec was against the so-called Rebellion, as it had been against Yankee propaganda in 1776 and 1812.

And this brings me to a very timely question, viz: Do the Roman Catholic Clergy control the French Canadians? The answer is simple; it is in the negative. Our relations with our priests are the same as those of all Roman Catholics with their priests in other parts of Canada. We have the highest regard for clergymen of all denominations, not only as members of the clergy, but also as good men who are a credit to our population. We were grateful to Goldwin Smith, when he said in his book, "Irish History and the Irish Question": "The moral character of the Irish priesthood in the opinion of impartial judges is high, as is that of the priesthood of French Canada. The two are probably the best things that the Roman Catholic Church has to show."

But in social, political and industrial matters, the priest has no more influence in Quebec than the lay professional man. In some places he is not popular and nobody seeks his support. I once