

did not miss a single sermon. The principal feature of each night's exercises, for him, was the answering of the queries found in the "Question Box." Probably, every objection, wise or otherwise, that ever was advanced against Catholicity cropped up during that fortnight under one guise or another. More than once his cheeks burned with shame at the evidence, thus brought to light, of the amount of ignorance and bigotry still existing among his co-religionists; and more than once he had much ado not to laugh outright at the absurdity of some of the questions propounded.

He did not use the question box himself; it seemed unnecessary as he got all the information he wanted through the queries of others. Much to his disappointment, he could not induce his wife to attend the mission with him. She was always too tired, or the weather was too cold—she never lacked an excuse. It is to be feared that Henry Archland had small reason to arise and call *his* wife blessed.

At last, the mission drew to a close, and one, at least, of the many non-Catholics who had attended it was fully convinced of the Church's claim to his obedience. But to his own surprise he felt anything but inclined to yield. Mr. Archland had thought himself free from prejudice and from the religious influences of his youth; but now old memories and sympathies seemed endowed with new life and tugged at his heartstrings piteously. He had thought that he had but to see the truth to become enamored of it, and now—now it was like a strange country to him, with unfamiliar scenery and odd customs, and he was sure he would never feel at home in it. After much hesitation, for he was a shy man, he addressed himself to one of the missionaries and explained his position as lucidly as he was able. To his surprise the priest made light of his difficulties.

"If you are convinced that the Catholic Church is the True Church," said the missionary, "you are obliged in conscience to become a Catholic. Religion is a matter of fact, my dear sir, not of sentiment. However, I happen to