

keep in his hands the government of the Dominion, which he does by help of the Catholic vote. It is impossible that he should consent to any vigorous action against the pretensions of the Roman Catholic hierarchy on the part of his lieutenants here. His influence in the nominations, so far as can be discerned, has been practically exerted against the platform on which Mr. Meredith takes his stand.

But there are people to whom the question is not one of "ins" and "outs" or of Big-endians and Little-endians. There are people whose object it is, so far as they can amidst the complications of the party fray, to uphold one of the great organic principles of our New World civilization, that entire separation of the Church from the State on which the purity of the Church as well as the integrity of the State depends, and at the same time to rescue the government from ecclesiastical domination and the British Province from French encroachment. What are these people to do? The answer is that they must do in each constituency what they can. In whatever constituency they may happen to be they must, as circumstances permit, make their force felt, assert the claims of their principle to recognition on the part of the candidates, and discountenance those who are hostile to it or are likely to betray it. A few such exhibitions of strength as that made by the Equal Rights party in the Ottawa election would render it impossible for Mr. Mowat or any one in his place to pay the Roman Catholic hierarchy for the future the price of its political support. In estimating the result, whatever it may be, the fatal strength of party must be borne in mind. It elects Mr. Rykert. It is too certain to prevail with multitudes who at the same time are in favour of Equal Right and would undoubtedly vote for it if that issue were submitted to them by itself. In these circumstances any vote cast for the principle must be multiplied many times to denote its true significance and will be so multiplied, we may be sure, in the minds of observant politicians. Apostasies from the cause of principle under the lash of the party-whip there have been and will be: one