

It is interesting to note the effects of separate schools in the R. Catholic sense in Europe and America. The records of crime give Spain, Italy and Rome a bad pre-eminence in crime. Convents are schools "distinct" enough, and yet mark the revelations as to convent discipline in the late Saurin case. Miss Saurin sues in a civil court for escape from a Hull convent. Indignities, hardships, penances, fasts, nakedness, and petty tyranny on the part of the Superioress and assistant torturing females, brought her to the gates of death, when she seeks life not in a conventual paradise, where the tree of life is supposed by the uninitiated to bloom in purity, beauty, and fruitfulness, but in the "sinful world" and [O! shocking] in the gross and secular place of a court of justice in a heretically free country. The angels and deliverers in this case proved to be lawyers and judges. If "distinct schools" be such a signal blessing, it is wonderful that the Lower Canadian French would flee from them at the rate of 60,000 a-year to the detriment of the country. Of one thing our law makers and law breakers may be assured, that the moment any country in America adopts a reactionary course, and fastens upon the people anything in the shape of institutions calculated to perpetuate priestly tyranny, they are doing the best they can to drive the people ultimately from it. In broad America people go where they please, and they are sure to go where they are freest.

WHILE Foreign Missions now solicit the attention of our people, it is to be hoped that our Home organization will continue to engage our utmost efforts for its improvement. Home organization must raise the means for the prosecution of foreign missions. I have lately been deeply impressed with the fact that we never stood lower in the county of Pictou in this respect than at this moment. Last autumn we had no less than six vacant places, namely, Lochaber, Barney's River, Roger's Hill, Cape John, West Branch River John, and Earltown—that is, three large congregations, all of whom had enjoyed pastors, and had contributed liberally to their support in former years. Most opportunely, Messrs. Campbell and McDonald, young ministers of high talent, character and acceptance, appeared and entered upon their labours in these vacancies. No one at that time could have doubted that every farthing of their salaries would have been paid by the people. They *have* been paid. But by whom? By the Colonial Committee; that is, by congregations in Scotland. This is just the same as if congregations at Halifax, Pictou, and New Glasgow, paid for the minister of Wallace and Gairloch. To prevent mistakes, the Presbytery sent deputations to all the places but Lochaber, which was inconveniently distant for a deputation. It must be mentioned that Barney's River paid handsomely according to their ability. But the fact remains that six places, strong and weak together, ought to make up every farthing of this money, and that out of \$750 only \$100 or \$120 has been paid, a sum quite inadequate even for the mere travelling expenses of these gentlemen. I am not unaware of the hardness of the times, but they are as trying to our settled congregations, and *they* are meeting their demands, while the expense of visiting them is not so great as for a travelling missionary. These places will soon have no missionary, and how can the Presbytery apply for ministers for them? What can they say? Are they to promise support? Perhaps it may be proper to state, for the guidance of congregations, the amount of their indebtedness. The sum due for six months service is \$750. Adding to this \$50 for Mr. McDonald's services, from the first of May till the meeting of Synod, and deducting two or three lost Sabbaths, the whole debt till the end of June will amount to about \$800. As regards the number of families, I have the best of authority for some of the numbers given, while for others I have my own personal knowledge alone as a guarantee. In a case of this kind there can be no small arithmetical maxims applied. The six places among them are morally