

“ Tous comprendront qu'en matière si grave, il n'y a pas d'absolution à donner, pas même à l'article de la mort, à ceux qui ne voudraient pas renoncer à l'Institut, qui n'a fait qu'un acte d'hypocrisie, en feignant de se soumettre au Saint Siège. ”

It is right to observe here that this “ principal ground of condemnation ” of the Institute, viz., That it had passed a resolution which established the principle of religious toleration, was entirely new, does not appear in any former document, and further, it would seem, could not have been known by Guibord.

It should also be mentioned, in order to complete the necessary history of the case, that Guibord, about six years before his death, being dangerously ill, was attended by a priest, who administered unction to him, but refused to administer the Holy Communion unless he resigned his membership of the Institute, which Guibord declined to do.

Guibord having died, as has been stated, on the 18th of November, 1869, suddenly of an attack of paralysis, on the 20th of November, the widow caused a request to be made on her behalf to the Curé and to the Clerk of the Fabrique, to bury Guibord in the cemetery, and tendered the usual fees.

Previously to this application, M. Rousselot, the Curé, having heard of the death of Guibord, and knowing that he was a member of the Institute, had applied to the administrator of the diocese for his directions. He replied that he had yesterday received a letter from the Bishop of Montreal, directing him to refuse absolution “ même à l'article de la mort ” to members of the Institute; he could not, therefore, permit “ la sépulture ecclésiastique ” to Guibord. The Curé, having received this letter, refused to bury Guibord in the larger part of the cemetery, where Roman Catholics were ordinarily buried, but offered to allow him interment in the other part, without the performance of any religious rites.

It seems that the agent of the widow offered to accept burial in the larger part without religious services; but this offer was rejected.