

# WHICH? ENGLAND OR ROME?

## A REVIEW OF THE GUIBORD BURIAL CASE,

From the "Altar and the Throne," Montreal.

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In fulfilment of the promise made in our first number, we now submit a short account of this *cause célèbre*, and in order that our readers may thoroughly understand the question, we have to go back to the year 1844, when the Roman Catholics of Montreal, whether Irish or French Canadian, had not a single library or reading room or place of meeting, for any purpose whatever, apart from their churches. The feeling that this want should be supplied induced a few French Canadian students to meet in that year and lay the foundation of *l'Institut Canadien*, a literary society having for its object the mutual improvement and education of its members, through books, newspapers, and discussions or debates. For several years prosperity attended the undertaking, and the society obtained a special act of incorporation in 1853, (see Statutes of Canada, 16 vic., c. 261.) By this act of incorporation minors of 17 years of age were accorded all the rights pertaining to the exercise of membership. Such was the rapid progress of this Institution that every city, town and village wanted to have its *Institut Canadien*; that being a synonymous term for the library, reading room and debating society. The result of this was that the various faculties of the mind were aroused and light began to dawn on dark places. Protestants who enjoy from their very birth the exercise of the brain's functions can scarcely realize the astonishing effect thus produced on a class of men who had been trained to think that it was not within their province to see anything that was not exhibited to