

He visited the city of Quebec in 1871 in connection with the meeting of the General Assembly of the Church of which he is now a minister. It would be difficult for any Protestant to enter into his feeling, as he—a suspected and scorned man—walked the streets of the city, in which he was once a proud priest and a popular favorite. The first Sabbath after his arrival was the day of the Corpus Christi procession. The old cathedral was crowded to the doors, and the ministering priests stood before the altar decked in gorgeous apparel, receiving what seemed almost divine homage from the people. Among these priests, not many years before, appeared Chiniquy, whose form was then known to all in Quebec, and whose name was a household word in the surrounding district. But how much matters are changed now! In the afternoon of the same Sabbath on which the whole city turned out to see the gorgeous priests and their proud pageantry, Chiniquy preached a sermon in French without any clerical garments, in a small building in one of the obscure streets of Quebec. It was not thought expedient to advertise the service. It was not known, therefore, much beyond the bounds of the handful of Protestants in that city. There were however present parties who watched the sermon (which was on the "Water of Life"—Christ offered to the woman of Samaria) with hostile intentions if any utterance came from his lips prejudicial to the church of Rome. There were signs of hate manifested by the crowd as the preacher walked to his lodgings that evening, but owing to the presence of friends and the police, no violence was offered. It was the early days of Christianity once more enacted before our eyes, as when Saul returned to Jerusalem a converted man, suspected and scorned by his countrymen, who raised the cry "Away with such a fellow from the earth; it is not fit that he should live;" which would have been raised in Quebec that day had Chiniquy attempted such things as he is now doing in Montreal.

Four years nearly have passed away since then, and Chiniquy, in obedience to the supreme court of the church of which he is a minister, has transferred his services from the United States to Canada, and from St. Anne's to Montreal, where he has commenced his work in circumstances of great excitement and no small danger.

The attitude of the priests towards their former brother is one of bitter and uncompromising hostility, Fa has again and again challenged them to a public discussion in their own Cathedral Church, or any where else, but not one of them dare to meet him by open and fair argument. There may be in the Province of Quebec a few priests, as there are thousands in Italy, to-day, who are weary of the yoke of Rome, all the time getting heavier on the necks of the working and secular clergy, but they are only few, if indeed they at all exist. It will be a long time, therefore, we fear ere we shall read of Montreal as we read of Jerusalem: "That a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith;" but it is otherwise with the better educated of the people.