

wholesome, broad, manly principles of primitive Christianity. Great as it doubtless is to be a Canadian, still greater is it to be a man, noble as is the patriotism of old Rome, still nobler the humanity of the gospels, and, so far from being exponents of any new 'ology' or 'ism,' it is of this great primary doctrine, which we have practically let slip, that the Doukhobors are peculiarly the prophets.

"One, indeed, cannot but fear that their simplicity will find a more deadly and insidious foe in the ease of our civilization than ever it did through the terrors of exile and the knout, and it suggests itself to an earnest thinker that we who license such a financial and moral monstrosity as the drink traffic, who allow luxury and want to co-exist, who permit a man willing to work to starve, and one unwilling to work to 'fare sumptuously every day,' who support such a Christian anomaly as a professional hangman; we, whose staple conversation is on anything rather than things true, honorable, just, pure, lovely, and of good report; we whose national and municipal politics are besmirched with selfishness, deception, dishonesty and oppression, should go through a course of 'sackcloth and ashes' before we consider ourselves sane enough and worthy enough to fitly welcome these people, who, through many generations, have 'counted not their lives as dear unto them,' if they could but live out the life of universal brotherhood.

"But your correspondent's principal dread is that the 'spirit wrestlers' will taint Canada with their doctrines of peace. The writer cannot help, in this connection, remembering the fear of a section of the Jewish people, that if certain teachings were allowed to prevail 'the Romans would come and take away the Hebrew place and nation,' or avoid comparing this modern attitude with that of their contemporaries toward the early Christians, who, on somewhat similar grounds, were accused of being

contrary to all men,' and of 'teaching customs which were not lawful for Romans to receive or observe. Without at present definitely dissenting from the position that war is at times necessary and just, I would quote the *Outlook*, which but echoes the utterance of many leaders of thought when it recently tells us that 'throughout the civilized world there is manifest a rising tide of conviction that war must soon take its place with other instruments and methods of barbarian times'

"The progress and happiness of the race has ever been due to the men who loved and suffered rather than the men who fought. Europe owes more to its Francis Assisis and Luthers than to its Charlemagnes or its Ferdinands. Even the Duke of Wellington cannot be compared in beneficent influence to John Wesley. It is from Bright rather than from Disraeli that Britain's high and successful standard of politics is derived. The most secure policy in the warring days of New England was that of William Penn, and above all one hardly needs to be reminded that the Personality which lies at the back of all that is truest, and noblest, and most manly in our civilization is that of a Hero who, in his hours of direst need, refused the aid of a sword.

Jas W. Roch."

Montreal, Dec., 1898.

—*Montreal Witness.*

For the Young Friends' Review.

"THE 'PROFESSIONAL' MINISTRY OF FRIENDS,"

AND ITS RELATION TO OUR DECLINE
IN NUMBERS

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This subject has been and is claiming the attention of many earnest minds in our Society, and the views herein presented are from the standpoint of the writer, and are respectfully submitted for consideration.

An article by T. E. Scott in the issue of the REVIEW of 1st month, '99,