

TO OUR PATRONS.

THE TRUE WITNESS

WILL BE SENT

free for the balance of this Year to parties
subscribing now.

ON RECEIPT OF ONE DOLLAR.

will date Subscription paid to January
1887.

THE TRUE WITNESS is undoubtedly the
cheapest and best weekly paper published in
Canada, and should be in every Catholic house-
hold. We trust our agents, readers and friends
will interest themselves in spreading the cir-
culation of a paper calculated to edify and in-
struct, affording pure, pleasant and entertaining
reading. Our patrons can assist us in advancing
the circulation of THE TRUE WITNESS by intro-
ducing it to their friends in their respective
localities, and we shall be pleased, on applica-
tion, to send sample copies for free distribution
amongst those who are likely to subscribe.

NO DISCOUNT FROM THE REGU-
LAR SUBSCRIPTION PRICE OF \$1.50 PER ANNUM
WILL BE ALLOWED IN ANY CASE EXCEPT WHEN
PAYMENT IS MADE ABSOLUTELY IN ADVANCE,
OR WITHIN 30 DAYS OF COMMENCEMENT OF
SUBSCRIPTION.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1886

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

We are now sending out our subscription
accounts to subscribers to THE POST and
TRUE WITNESS, and we earnestly trust that
our patrons receiving these accounts will make
it a point to pay off their indebtedness at an
early date. THE TRUE WITNESS is an exceed-
ingly cheap paper. The subscription rate when
paid in advance, being only ONE DOLLAR.
The amount due by each is accordingly very
small, but the aggregate of these trifling sums
reaches a figure far up in the thousands, and
these thousands are absolutely required to
give each reader a bright, live, instructive,
and an entertaining newspaper, such as the
TRUE WITNESS is to-day.

THE exclusiveness of the *haut ton* in the
United States is proverbial, and is a natural
outcome of a type of society which is com-
pelled to form cliques or sets. It has been
profoundly said that it is easier to obtain ad-
mittance to heaven than to the upper crust of
Boston society; but, as a matter of fact, it is
no harder than elsewhere. But there is evi-
dently one man who is going to get into the
"higher circles" or know the reason why.
The New York *Herald* gives the following
advertisement:—

A GENTLEMAN OF WEALTH AND RESPECTABLE
standing from the West, will pay well for the intro-
duction of his family into the higher circles of fashionable
society in New York. All communications strictly con-
fidential. SOCIETY, 128 Herald office.

The question, however, suggests itself whether
the "gentleman of wealth and respectability"
will be quite comfortable when he has gained
the object of his ambition.

It may reasonably be doubted whether
certain sections of the press are doing any pub-
lic service by producing a mass of disgusting
details, culled from social gossip in the
English divorce court. Yet they do it and
at the same time affect to be censors of the
public morals. Just now there happens to be
a particularly repulsive case being tried in
London, and every incident in this revolting
narrative is served up to corrupt the young
and gratify the prurient tastes of the morbidly
inclined. The matter repeated comes from
certain New York papers, which cater for
the less intellectual and respectable of the
United States people. But we fail to see
why the matter should be stolen from the
columns of those papers and then forced into
the homes of Canada.

SOME persons whose enthusiasm got the
better of their discretion recently suggested
that the jubilee of the Queen's reign should be
commemorated in the United States by the
erection of a colossal statue. The sugges-
tion has not been received very favorably,
and it must have emanated from some crank.
But now there has been made a very sensible
proposition, which seems in a fair way of
being carried into execution. A hospital
is to be constructed at New York and
named the Victoria Hospital, where British
people may be especially at-
tended. The great hospitals of that city are
open to all freely enough and it has been very
reasonably pointed out that it would be a
graceful act to present such a hospital to the
Americans as a slight acknowledgment of
favors received. Already large subscriptions
have been procured.

A comic story is going the rounds of a spec-
imen Orange upholder of the "Open Bible" in
Toronto. He was in a crowd talking politics
and vehemently condemned the Ontario Gov-
ernment for giving selections of the Bible to be
read in schools, and wound up by striking
the Bible fiercely with his fist, and exclaim-
ing:—"We want the whole Bible, and nothing
but the whole Bible." The story got out and ap-
peared in one of the papers. Whereupon he de-
clared that he did not put it that way, and
wrote his correction inserted thus:—"We
want the whole Bible, and nothing but the
whole Bible." This is an excellent illustration of
the spirit and character of the men who are rais-
ing all the row about Protestantism being in
danger. The greater the danger there is to
that sort of Protestantism the better, we
think, and we believe all educated Protest-
ants are of our mind.

"THE DARK DAYS OF DEFICITS."

The Conservative Convention held at
Toronto on the 23rd November, 1881, Mr.
J. M. Macdonald, seconded by Mr. Mac-

donald, a resolution congratulating the coun-
try on "the departure of the dark days of
deficits, and the return of a sunshine season
of surpluses."

The demon of alliteration has often led
men into sad scrapes, as, for instance, the
New York Reverend whose "Rome, Rum
and Rebellion" cooked Mr. Blaine's goose in
his contest with Cleveland for the Presidency
of the United States. We greatly fear that
the immortal author of the classic ode be-
ginning,

"Thou great John A., thy heart ne'er quails,
You have shown their frauds, and steel rails."

will have to reverse his alliterative congrat-
ulation, and make it read as a commiseration
with the country on the departure of "the
sunshine season of surpluses and the return
of the dark days of deficits." In the light
of our experience of the results of Tory
Government, the delict deliverance of 1881
looms up in grim absurdity of contrast with
sibyllian certainty of 1886! Will the hon.
Senator from Niagara come down out of his
hat or up out of his boots and explain?

A FORGERY EXPOSED.

With reference to the letters published by
The Mail and alleged by it to have been
written by Archbishop Lynch and the Rev.
Father Coffey, the following affidavit is more
than interesting:—

I, John Francis Coffey, of the city of Lon-
don, Priest, editor of *The Catholic Record*,
published in the same city, declare:—

That the following letters appeared in the
Toronto Mail on Thursday, Nov. 26th inst:—

LONDON, Dec. 9, 1886.

"Dear Mr. — I venture to drop you a line in
support of Hon. G. W. Ross, the new Minister of Edu-
cation. Please say a good word for him to all our
friends."

Subjoined you will find a copy of Archbishop Lynch's
letter in his support, which you may read to all in your
confidence.

JOHN COFFEY, President,
Editor *Catholic Record*.

It would be a severe blow to the Catholics to lose
the Mowat Government that has done all in its power for
us. I hope the Catholics of West Middlesex will see to
their own interest and return Mr. Ross.

JOHN JOSEPH, Archbishop of Toronto.
Toronto, Dec. 5, 1886.

That I am not the author of the above
letters, or of either of them. That I had no
communication, verbal or otherwise, with any
of the Catholic electors of the West Riding of
Middlesex during the electoral contest of
Dec., 1885, in which the Hon. G. W. Ross
sought election as Minister of Education, save
an except two. That no letter or letters of
vice were sent generally among the Catholic
electors of the said riding at that or any
other election. That while I am a supporter
of the general policy of the Mowat Govern-
ment, there are marked differences of opinion
between the Minister of Education and my-
self on educational matters; and that the
said Minister has ever, notwithstanding said
differences, candidly expressed his views to
me, without any attempt to unduly influence
my course as a clergyman or as a public
journalist.

JOHN F. COFFEY.
Sworn before me, this 26th day of Novem-
ber, 1886, (signed), D. KIRGAN, J.P.

The despicable and dastardly conduct of
The Mail is exposed in a truly lurid light
by this affidavit. Now the question arises:—
Who is responsible for the forgery? Time
will tell.

THE NEW CONSERVATIVE N.P. PLAT-
FORM.

Mr. Meredith's address to the electors of
London is an echo, somewhat vague perhaps,
but still quite a distinct echo, of the platform
laid down by *The Mail* and recently dissected
in these columns. The *Toronto World*, which
has hitherto posed as an independent, frankly
accepts Mr. Meredith's policy as identical
with that promulgated by *The Mail* and falls
into line with the Tory party. Its interpre-
tation of the facts of the situation agrees
with our own, though we differ entirely with
its deductions concerning the wisdom and
good of the new departure. Here is what it
says:—"Mr. Meredith's address distinctly
"accentuates the change of platform lately
"made by the Conservative party. It is no
"longer a journal which speaks, it is the
"Conservative leader in the Assembly."
"Those who have believed that the recent
"change in *The Mail* was a mere party
"dodge to be reversed after the election,
"must now be convinced that the new Con-
"servative policy has come to stay."

In the above words *The World* expressed
what everybody believes as to the character
of *The Mail's* change of base, and all will
accept this interpretation as correct. The
organ's attacks on the Catholic Church,
separate schools, the French Canadian people,
the Irish people, Home Rule and the federal
constitution indicate the lines of Conservative
policy deliberately adopted by the party and
its chief, Sir John Macdonald. It is well that
this should be clearly understood. *The World*
says further:—"The declaration of Mr.
"Meredith against an extension of the sepa-
"rate school system in Ontario and his con-
"demnation of Ontario aid to the race and
"revenge cry in Quebec indicate that the
"people may count on the Ontario Conserva-
"tive leader for resistance to any increase of
"the power of the Church of Rome in school
"matters and to the encroachments of the
"French at the eastern end of the province."

This is the Tory N.P. for the campaign of
1887. It is very different from the N.P. of
1875. It was "National Policy," "Union
and Progress," "Canada for Canadians." Catholics, French and Irish, were recognized
as component parts of the "New Nationality."
Now it is "No Popery." Catholics, French
and Irish, are read out of the Conservative
party as out of general excommunication. Such
being the undeniable attitude of Toryism,
there is nothing for the French and Irish to do
but to unite with the Liberal party and teach
Sir John Macdonald and his bigots and
bottlers the same severe lesson that the same
people taught the old time "Grits" when
they adopted the same detestable and disrup-
tive programme.

But, as if to emphasize Mr. Meredith's de-
claration of policy, and bring to a focus all
the forces of fanaticism which it has been
drumming up and drilling for the last twelve
months, *The Mail* concludes a long and vio-
lent editorial, filled with anathemas and insults

to the French, the Irish and the Catholic
Church, with the following incendiary ap-
peal to the Protestants of Ontario:—"Bear
in mind that in 1881 there were 107,000
"French Canadians in this Province, and
"that the Church has 320,000 Irish Catholics
"besides; recollect that she is skilled in the
"manipulation of the solid column in our
"politics; reflect that at the present moment
"Archbishop Lynch wields more influence and
"authority in Ontario affairs than any single
"party leader amongst us, while at Ottawa
"the Quebec hierarchy hold the balance of
"power, and know how to use it. Assured-
"ly if we desire to avoid endless complica-
"tions, and perhaps bloodshed in the future,
"the time for us to strike is now."

Thus having, as it thinks, worked up Pro-
testant apprehensions to the desired point, it
declares the alternative. "Strike now!"
That is, "Down with the Papias, French
and Irish, or bloody war!" This is terrible
talk. But in spite of its terror, we can assure
The Mail that we have not the remotest idea
of lying down under its Protestant horse, or
its Protestant horse-chestnut either. So what
is it going to do about it? Neither the
French nor the Irish are afraid of the Boodle
Brigade, even if they should succeed in rais-
ing an army of bigots to back them in the
cruel war they have thus declared, through
their organ, against the Catholics of Canada.
Let Boodle "strike now"! Barkis is will-
ing.

ONTARIO SEPARATE SCHOOLS.

There are 50,000 children of Catholic
parents attending the public schools of On-
tario. Should *The Mail* succeed in its
crusade the result will be to drive all these
children out of the public schools and thus
defeat the very purpose it pretends to ad-
vocate. The schools would not be secularised,
but would actually become Protestant sepa-
rate schools, if the various denominations
could come to an agreement on what they
would, in common, approve of being taught.

We may also point out here that the var-
ious amendments to the Ontario school law
were made to facilitate its working, as dic-
tated by actual experience. For instance,
when the law first came into force the school
rates were collected by two distinct sets of
collectors, one for the Public, the other for
the Separate schools. This system was
found expensive and unsatisfactory. Many
persons under it managed to evade paying
the school tax altogether, and an arrange-
ment was effected whereby the one collector
sufficed for both. The new system has,
on the whole, worked well, and far more satis-
factorily than the old way. Any difficulty
that may have occurred arose from the divi-
sion of the common fund. Inaccuracies may,
and probably did, creep in, whereby some
Protestants here and there, as well as some
Catholics, were set down as supporters of the
schools they did not desire to support. But
these mistakes pretty evenly balanced each
other, and when discovered were always rec-
tified without friction.

But the conduct of *The Mail* and the Tories
in raising a cry against the amendments
manifestly adopted in the interests of Pro-
testants and Catholics alike, is a very trans-
parent exhibition of hypocrisy. The amend-
ment which enabled the Protestant to devote
his school rate to the public schools, and a
Catholic tenant to devote his to the separate
schools, was made law in 1881, with the full
consent and with the votes of Mr. Meredith
and the Tory Opposition. They raised no
objection in parliament or out of it. The
general election of 1883 came on and not a
word was uttered by the Tory party or press
against these amendments. On the contrary,
as has been shown, Sir John Macdonald, Mr.
Meredith, and Mr. Bunting of *The Mail*,
combined to capture the Catholic vote by
issuing their now celebrated "Facts for Irish
Electors."

The Tory leaders were extremely anxious
then to conciliate the Irish and prove their
devotedness to Catholic interests. Now they
are on the opposite tack, and assail Mr. Mowat
for doing what they helped him to do, and
what they claimed Catholic approval in 1883
for having done! They want to capture the
Protestant vote, and so they turn on the
Catholics and assail them with the most un-
measured evidence. The spectacle is unspak-
ably disgusting and shows how utterly con-
temptible and unworthy of the smallest con-
sideration are the men who are raising the
"No Popery" cry in Ontario.

THE ISSUE IN ONTARIO.

Since Mr. Meredith published his election
address, the issue between parties in Ontario
may be said to be pretty clearly defined. The
Tory Opposition leader and his party have
undoubtedly accepted *The Mail's* programme.
Simply stated, that programme means Pro-
testant ascendancy and Orange domination,
as opposed to National Liberalism. In the
latter are included the great masses of Presby-
terians, large sections of other dissenting
denominations and Irish Catholics. These
last have been almost wholly driven into the
Liberal ranks by the threats and insults of
the Tory press and stump orators. Like
other classes in the province, they were
divided in their party allegiance, but the
ferocious onslaught made upon their faith
and institutions have compelled them in self
defence to ally themselves with the Liberals.

The conduct of the *Mail*, the address of
Mr. Meredith, the appeals to fanaticism ad-
dressed by Mr. Thomas White, Mr. Dalton
McCarthy, Mr. Alfred Boutilier, to the elec-
tors have shown Catholics everywhere that
the chief ground of attack against Mr. Mowat
and the Ontario Government is their friend-
ship to Catholics. Every sentiment of man-
liness, fair play and gratitude, therefore,
urges Catholics to do their best to sustain
Mr. Mowat and his colleagues in a crisis
forced upon them because they have acted
justly and fairly towards Catholics.

This issue has been forced upon the people

by the Tories, not because their leaders are
bigots or fanatics, or because they are affected
in the remotest degree by fear of "Romish
aggression," but because they hope to cap-
ture the votes of those who are so affected,
and thereby capture the government of the
province. This miserable fact demands all
the more that they should be severely pun-
ished. They have aided an issue which,
should they succeed, they could neither con-
trol nor divert. Orangeism is a form of
atavistic dementia. It calls into activity and
develops the worst passions and most savage
instincts of a semi-brutal ancestry. Its
ascendancy in government would mean the
denial of Catholic representation in parlia-
ment and cabinet, war upon the Catholic
Church and Catholic institutions, the de-
struction of separate schools, sectarian strife,
endless bitterness, hatred, malice, and all
uncharitableness!

An issue like this can only be met in one
way. Protestant as well as Catholic in-
terests are involved, inasmuch as both are
bound up in the peace and prosperity of the
country. The harmony in which all classes
are dwelling together must not be disturbed
by a godless faction, who take the highway
on the Protestant horse, and, putting the
pistol at the head of the electorate, demand
"boodle or blood!"

By taking this course the Tories have
largely succeeded in their object of obscur-
ing the true issues of the campaign. These
are really questions of administration. Judged
by them the Mowat Government has no reason
to fear the keenest criticism, the most search-
ing analysis. The Tories know this. Hence the
"No Popery" howl. It is an issue as false as
it is dangerous, and we all upon all men who value the future well-
fare of their families and the peace and
orderly progress of the country to unite and
stamp it out. Catholics know their duty in
an emergency like this. It is a sacred duty,
and let them see that it is well done by rally-
ing to the support of the Liberal candidates
on the 28th December. Let it be a day for-
ever to be remembered as having witnessed
the suppression by a free people of the hideous
monster—Orange Toryism.

THE ONTARIO SCHOOLS.

It would be a good thing if the fanatics
who are at present moving heaven and earth
in their efforts to raise the "no popery"
banner with success were, as far as Separate
Schools are concerned, to spend a little time
in the study of the educational question as
seen across the lines. There all the "equality
before the law" so much bubbled about has
been long in practice and is the
established public scholastic system. But what
has been the result? It is found that
a smattering of general knowledge, un-
tempered with the higher lessons of spiri-
tual teaching, is productive of harm rather
than good. Very recently statistics have
been published which have placed the secular
plan of public schools in a most unfavorable
light. It has been shown that where the nomi-
nal results of the public system
have been the highest, there morals in
social walks have been the lowest, and so
marked and evident is this that the feel-
ing in the ranks of all denominations is grow-
ing in favor of each having its own school-
The same may be said of the religious deno-
minations in Canada, and so far as the Angli-
can communion is concerned, that body only
recently in this city in its Synod
introduced some resolutions, having
for their object the ultimate establish-
ment of denominational schools in con-
junction with that body. The Methodists are
also said to be rapidly becoming favorable to
the same system. But it is perhaps in the
United States the failure of the public system
cannot be studied by Canadians, because party
feeling and local faction fighting would then
be out of the reckoning.

No more opportune moment than the pre-
sent could be selected for such a study of the
question, seeing that, with a rashness that is
also closely allied to deliberate wickedness, the
Conservatives in Ontario have raised a cry of
"No Separate Schools," for the very worst
and most iniquitous of purposes. A careful
examination of the question will teach those
who have, so far as the masses are concerned,
probably, never given the matter a thought,
that there is really nothing in separate schools
calculated to encroach on rights, liberties,
conscience, or anything else pertaining to the
people. A great impetus has been given to
the study of the subject by the noble letter of
Mr. Mowat and published a day or two ago.
It may be surprising to a good many to ob-
serve that the Conservatives, in their recent
attacks on the system, have had the boldness
to insinuate that the Separate School system
was established by Mr. Mowat's government.
The Ontario premier demolishes this flimsy,
false argument at once, by pointing out that
it was in 1863 they were created and that their
creation has been confirmed by the Confedera-
tion Act and subsequent legislation. Mr.
Mowat also shows that his Government has
not made any material changes in the law,
and that no objection was raised at the time
to such changes as have been made. In a
very exhaustive review of the general attacks
made on the Catholic schools, Mr.
Mowat demolishes in a most complete man-
ner every one of the cries raised so
unwisely by the Conservatives. So far as
the Protestant contentions are concerned
Mr. Mowat leaves no loophole of escape for
his adversaries. He is scathing, merciless
and crushing, and his manifesto gives the
finishing stroke to one of the most iniquitous
attempts to create religious discord for po-
litical ends ever, probably, attempt-
ed. But from evil good comes
sometimes, and if the Tory attempt
results in a more general consideration
being given by the electors to the subject
than has been in the past, the Catholic
schools will be rather strengthened than
weakened by the attempt of the fanatical
gentlemen.

A SAD DISAPPOINTMENT.

When it was announced that Justin Mc-
Carthy and Michael Davitt were coming to
Canada to make public addresses on the Irish
question the enemies of Home Rule expected
they would have a grand text in the utter-
ances of these gentlemen whereon to hang
many a "loyal" diatribe. But they were
sadly disappointed. They could find nothing
that could in any way be twisted or tortured
into an expression of disloyalty or opposed to
the Parnellite policy of constitutional agita-
tion and the moral forces for the attainment
of Irish political regeneration. This was very
annoying, perhaps, because such conduct
offered an admirable contrast to the blood
and thunder ravings of Messrs. Kane and
Smith, as well as a good indication of the
moral superiority of the Irish Home Rulers
and the cause they advocated.

But the superiority of the lecturers on
Home Rule over the Orange delegates was
not less marked than the superiority of the
audiences that assembled to hear them was
over the "truly loyal" crowd. Whenever a
harsh, bigotted, or bloodthirsty sentiment
was expressed by Dr. Kane, or echoed by Mr.
Smith, the "lamb" applauded with ferocious
delight. No such sentiments found utterance
with Mr. McCarthy or Mr. Davitt, but when
a brilliant sally or noble aspiration came from
them the appreciation of the wit or sentiment
met with hearty response. The character of
the Home Rule cause, of its leaders
and of its upholders was thus exhibited in
strong contrast to those of the
Orange faction. These indications of feeling
are all in admirable keeping with the conduct
of the people of Ireland under the existing
desperate government of Toryism dominated
by landlordry, and may be traced to the
sense with which the Irish regard the situa-
tion. They know that patience and quiet
determination will, and must, secure the
object for which they are striving, and that
nothing would please their tyrants more than
for them to threaten violence or depart from
the constitutional course by which they have
come within view of the day of promise.

The peculiarities noted above have not
escaped the observation of the press and
people of America, with whom they have had
a deep effect, and from whom they have won
many expressions of approval.

But the organs of the Orange faction still
persist in claiming that Home Rule is a
Catholic movement, in spite of innumerable
proofs to the contrary. If those organs can
point to Protestant divines who are opposed
to Home Rule, we can also name equally able
and respectable Protestant clergymen who are
ardent friends and eloquent advocates of the
National cause. The Rev. Mr. Burns, of
Hamilton, is one, and the Rev. Mr. Pepper,
of Ohio. The former gentleman lectured
throughout the country to large
and delighted audiences some months
ago. The latter has the approval of
a great number of the ministers and laity of
his Church in the State of Ohio. We re-
corded that at a conference of the Methodist
District Church recently held in Mansfield,
in that State, he addressed the members
assembled upon "The Cause of Ireland,"
and such was the effect upon the body that
at the close of his remarks the whole
audience rose most enthusiastically and by
its standing unanimous vote passed a resolu-
tion of sympathy with the Irish struggle.

The *Orange Sentinel*, commenting on the
above demonstration says: "There can be no
misunderstanding such a pledge." We should
think not. The only people who are implac-
able in their opposition to the granting of jus-
tice to Ireland are the handful of bigoted
prejudiced radicals in the north-east corner
of the Island and classes prejudiced against
the Irish in England. But the strong com-
mon sense of Presbyterian Scotland, the free
spirit of the Dissenters of Wales and the
educated Radicals of England, are all on
the side of Home Rule. That question, inti-
mately allied as it is with the questions of
land and labor, is in reality as much English,
Scottish and Welsh as it is Irish. It is the
first proposition in the new economy
which is pressing for solution at
the hands of the British people and states-
men. It must be solved, and can only be
solved in one way. Every possible way ex-
cept the right way has been tried over and
over again. Rapacious landlords and apostles
of physical force have had their will,
but the growing intelligence and enlarged
sympathies of the British people are coming
into play and becoming educated as to the
true nature of the Irish problem. They re-
cognize it as the same with which they are
themselves preparing to grapple, and every
day adds strength to a movement which be-
longs to that great social upheaval now ad-
mitted by all Governments as the great con-
trolling force in European as well as Ameri-
can politics.

An able, indefatigable press has kept the
Irish people instructed concerning the events
of the times, the bearing thereof on the
Home Rule question, and the duty of Irish-
men under the circumstances of the times.
The conduct of Irish speakers and Irish
audiences shows how well they are informed,
and how perfectly they understand their
duty.

The mere sectarian aspect of the question
may appear of vast proportions to the Orange
imagination, terrified as it must be at the re-
collection of its crimes. But men whose
minds are not warped by religious fanaticism,
or clouded by apprehensions arising from
guilty consciences, take a wider and wholly
different view. This view includes the belief
that justice must prevail, and that the sooner
the question is settled in accordance with the
will of the Irish people, which is the only
standard of rectitude, the better it will be for
England and the world.

THE PROTESTANT CRY KILLED.

Saturday's *Toronto Globe* contains two
letters of the greatest importance in their
bearing on the Protestant cry which has been

raised by *The Mail* to distract public atten-
tion from the crimes of the Government of
the Dominion and destroy Mr. Mowat in
Ontario.

These letters were written respectively by
the Rev. Wm. Cowan, D.D., Principal of
Knox College, the chief Presbyterian theologi-
cal university in Canada; and by the Rev.
E. H. Dewart, D.D., editor of the *Christian
Guardian*, the organ of the Methodist Church
in Canada.

Among other attacks on the Mowat Gov-
ernment *The Mail* asserted that the book
containing selections from Scripture provided
for use in the public schools was compiled
under instructions from Archbishop Lynch.
This was made to do service in the "Pro-
testantism in danger" crusade, as undue inter-
ference by Rome in Protestant education. Day
after day the chief organ rang the changes
on this theme, till at last Principal Cowan
and Dr. Dewart have been compelled to
state the facts in self-defence and as a matter
of justice to the Government and Mr. Ross,
Minister of Education.

Dr. Cowan writes—"The Education De-
partment, in authorising selections of Scrip-
ture, acted in conformity with representa-
tions made to the Department by the
churches of Ontario, and by the Provincial
Teachers Association. A large depu-
tation of the Church of England and
of the Methodist and Presbyterian
churches submitted to the Attorney-General
a resolution," (which he quotes) recom-
mending selections to be made in conformity
with the views of the representatives of the various
churches. Dr. Cowan also quotes the recom-
mendation of the Teachers Association to the
same effect. "It will thus be seen," he con-
tinues, "how little ground there is for ac-
cusing the department of proceeding in op-
position to, or in ignorance of the opinion of
the churches." Further on he says: "In
regard to the principle of selections, and the
main features of this selection, the Minister
(of Education) is sustained by the representa-
tives of the Congregational, Methodist, Epis-
copal and Presbyterian Churches. It is
scarcely necessary, therefore, to say that the
Scripture readings were not selected by Arch-
bishop Lynch, nor under his direction. The
draft seems to have been sent to him in com-
mon with all the gentlemen composing the
large committee of all Churches, and the
Archbishop suggested the harmless, if un-
necessary, change of 'which' into 'who' in
the Lord's Prayer. Further than this the
hand of the Archbishop was not applied."

Dr. Cowan also says—"The Minister (Mr.
Ross) is issuing this maligned book was but
giving effect to the strongly expressed wishes
of the churches and the teachers." The letter
concludes with the following just and sensible
observations:—

"My object in writing this letter, as already
said, is not to defend selections of Scripture
for use in schools, nor to endorse in every par-
ticular the compilation in question, but to ex-
press my sincere commendation of all attempts
to discredit Mr. Ross by misrepresent-
ing facts which are well known to many
ministers and laymen in all the Churches. I
would equally bear testimony on behalf of the
opponents of the Ontario Government should
their action have been in question. No Gov-
ernment can complain of fair and honest
criticism, however searching; but when pub-
lic men strive to do right, and to follow the
best sentiment of the community in its most
authentic expression (as Mr. Ross has done
in the matter of this book), they are entitled,
I think, to expect that those who have
prompted their action, and as it were pushed
them forward, shall not without adequate
protest allow that action to become the ground
of party attack."

Dr. Dewart recites the same facts set forth
by Dr. Cowan, and gives, in addition, the
names of all the Protestant clergymen of
every denomination who took part in making
the selections, discussing them and reading
the proofs. He also observes:—

"As one of the Protestant Ministers who
approved of the publication of such a volume,
and who took part in the preparation and re-
vision of these 'Scriptural Readings,' I feel
bound, on behalf of myself and the other min-
isters concerned, to repudiate the unfair and
incorrect construction that has been put upon
the adoption of this method of supplying the
demand of the Churches for more religious
instruction in the schools. Much of what
has been written against the 'Scripture
Readings' I cannot but regard as an attempt
to arouse unwarranted prejudice, and to
mislead the public mind as to the aim, char-
acter, and tendency of the volume under
discussion."

Dr. Dewart also takes occasion to rebuke
The Mail for its unworthy attempts to stir up
religious strife between Catholics and Protest-
ants. He writes:—

"The Protestant ministers who approved
of the proposed readings are certainly as
loyal to the Bible and as jealous of its honor
as the most blatant of their partisan assail-
ants. For myself and the Christian gentle-
men with whom I was associated, I fling back
the clap-trap appeals and partisan misrep-
resentations, as mean and slanderous aspersions
on the character of men who were honestly
and intelligently endeavoring to promote a
fuller knowledge of the life-giving truths of
the Bible among the young of the country."

In conclusion, Dr. Dewart forcibly ob-
serves:—

"In view of the facts and arguments
which I have hastily named, and others
which it would occupy too much space to
state here, I do not hesitate to say that, if
the other grounds on which it is alleged that
Protestantism is in danger in this Province
are as weak, as flimsy, and as futile as what
has been urged about the 'Scripture Read-
ings' in the public schools, they are not likely
to secure the confidence of candid and intel-
ligent people."

The publication of these letters gives the
death-blow to the Protestant cry. From us
they require no comment. But we may ex-
press our satisfaction that the assurances,
often repeated in *The Post*, that sensible
Protestants condemned the incendiary ap-
peals to fanaticism made by *The Mail*, have
been proved true by the most learned and
respected teachers and upholders of Protes-
tantism in Ontario.

A Novada hunter spent three months look-
ing for a