

was that made the great St. Thomas Aquinas say, 'the gift of grace surpasses all the faculties of created nature, since it is nothing else than a participation of the divine nature, which exceeds any other nature.' (Summa 1. 2. 112, ar. 11.)

'I ask then most seriously and most solemnly are children, thus gifted and privileged, the images and children of God, bound to work to attain the highest degree of holiness and perfection, under the personal influence of the Holy Ghost, to fit their souls for heaven; are they to be sent by their parents and guardians to those Government Common Schools, properly called godless, from which all religious instructions are designedly excluded? Let us examine the character and working of those schools, and every parent must be satisfied, as well as everybody else who has any true religious notions, that no christian child should be sent to those schools, that they cannot be sent there without danger to their faith and morals, to their temporal welfare and eternal happiness. What then is the condition and working of those schools in the New and Old World, in the States, Canada, France, Italy, and New Brunswick? But, before I say anything about those schools, I must relate to you what are the expressed and well known intentions of those who are everywhere their most zealous advocates and originators. Monseigneur Duponlop, the celebrated Bishop of Orleans, has clearly shown these in his late pamphlet on the principles, designs, and working of a certain secret society. He gives us the sentiments of the leading members of this society, uttered at their public meetings, where they do not conceal that all religious teaching should be banished from schools, and that all christian schools and religious institutions should be effaced from society. 'Morality independent of all religious hypothesis.' Such is the motto of the advocates of godless schools, and the conclusion they draw from it is, 'that all religious belief is useless for the young;' and, still more 'that Faith in God takes away the dignity of man, troubles his reason, and may lead him to the abandonment of all morality.' One of the most celebrated of those advocates stated publicly at their meeting: 'Do not let us hear any more of that bastard, false edu-