

gland, and indifferent or blind to the larger issue of civilisation and public morality endangered and latterly actively hostile. (14)

The Bishops seem to have lost control of the lower clergy, for some at least, have seen the danger to their own people involved in their attitude.

There are some matters, both of fact and of inference, in which I disagree with you, and as the subject is of supreme importance to both of us, I shall take the liberty of pointing them out.

You say at p. 7. "La haine de race... nous a fait ce mal". I sincerely think you are wrong in supposing that here is any hatred on the part of the average English speaking Canadian towards the French Canadian. There is much indifference, much prejudice, in some cases contempt — but is there any more of these very undesirable characteristics, than on the part of the average French Canadian, towards the English? Perhaps instead of contempt, you should in the case of the French substitute envy. (15) The weaker and poorer are naturally envious of the stronger and more prosperous — that is only poor human nature.

With reference to the Ontario School Question may I point out to you two things which are usually overlooked — 1st — The quarrel is between Catholics, that is Irish and French. Protestants, as such have no interest in it, tho' no doubt the Ontario government has taken the side of the Irish. (16) 2nd, The ordinary Ontario voter has been told for years that the French

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(14) Il y a certainement eu, de la part de quelques membres du clergé, des paroles, même des actes de véritable hostilité ; mais ce sont des cas isolés. Les lettres que j'ai reçues des plus représentatifs parmi les prêtres, du ministère et surtout de l'enseignement, ne permettent d'affirmer que la proposition de M. Stuart, trop générale et, il est vrai, conforme à l'opinion courante, ne rend pas justice au clergé.

(15) Dans une lettre subséquente, provoquée par mes protestations, M. Stuart précise sa pensée sur le choix de ces termes. Au fond, peu importe l'étiquette qu'il convient de mettre sur le sentiment qui sépare les deux races ; il est certain qu'elles ne s'aiment point l'une l'autre. Et l'une n'a pas plus de raison de mépriser l'autre que celle-ci n'a sujet d'envier celle-là. Il y a antipathie, cela se voit assez. La race la plus forte par le nombre a cédé à la "pauvre nature humaine" et a abusé de cette force ; de là nos griefs.

(16) Pourquoi ? Sinon parce que la langue française est le grand obstacle à la fusion rêvée par le gouvernement d'Ontario et par ceux qui le soutiennent.