

General Business.

Laid Low by Indigestion. I was run down I had to give up work. Scott's Sarsaparilla the kind that cures.

Miramichi Advance.

CHATHAM, N. B., MARCH 12, 1896. Canada's Debt. We observe that considerable stress is being laid just now upon the fact that Canada has a public debt.

Parliament of Canada.

The Remedial Bill. OTTAWA, MARCH 3.—Sir Charles Tupper, rising to move the reading of the remedial bill, said:—Mr. Speaker, in times past I have had occasion to propose to this House the consideration of measures of very great importance, but I confess that I have never risen to propose the second reading of a bill under the same deep sense of responsibility that I feel on the present occasion.

Cost of the Cuban War.

A London despatch says:—The Madrid papers contain some curious official statistics regarding the war in Cuba. According to these there were sent to the island up to March, 1896, 118,000 men. Thirteen thousand of these were sent at the time of the outbreak of the rebellion. The cost of the war thus far is placed at \$50,000,000. For the second year the cost is estimated at \$75,000,000. Each soldier in Cuba costs the Government \$500 annually. During the first year 406 soldiers were killed and 3,472 died from yellow fever.

Advances Scientific Miscellany.

THE THERMOPIRE—INDUCTION LIGHTING—FLAMELESS DYNAMITE CARTRIDGES—THE MODERN IDEA OF THE STOMACH—SPECIMEN FORMS OF RADIOGRAPHIC APPLIANCE—ELECTROLYTIC ALUMINUM—A QUICK-ACTING THERMOMETER.

How To Use Cottoleone

the new shortening, like all other things must be rightly used if you wish the best results. Never, in any recipe, use more than two-thirds as much Cottoleone as you used to use of lard. Never put Cottoleone in a hot pan lest it burn. To test it, add a drop of water; if hot enough it will pop. Cottoleone, when rightly used, delights everyone. Get the genuine, sold everywhere in tin, with trade-marks "Cottoleone" and "Star's Head" in cotton-plant wreath—on every tin. Made only here.

WORTH A GUINEA A BOTTLE, SHARP'S BALSAM OF HOREHOUD FOR BRONCHITIS, COUGHS & COLDS. 50 - YEARS - IN - USE. PRICE 25 CENTS. ARMSTRONG & CO., PROPRIETORS. ST. JOHN, N. B.

Assessors' Notice. The Assessors of Rates for the Parish of Chatham, having received warrants for the assessment on the 1st day of March, 1896, and in compliance with the provisions of the Statute in that behalf made, do hereby require all persons liable to be taxed in said parish to bring to the assessors within thirty days from date a true statement of their property and income liable to be assessed. The assessors also give notice that their valuation list when completed will be posted at the Post Office, Chatham.

Office of Jordan, Marsh & Co., Boston, Oct. 1, 1895. Dear Mr. Kerr:—I have been in Boston a little over two weeks, and have been working here about two weeks, so you see I was not getting a situation. I look back to the time when you sent me your letter and find that the training I got has done me a world of good. S. E. STEVENS.

POCKET BOOK LOST. On Thursday last between McLanahan's shop and the Hill, Chatham, a pocket book containing \$10.00 in money, returned to the Advance office the contents will be shared with the finder.

HEAD QUARTERS. THE HEADQUARTERS FOR DRUGS, PATENT MEDICINES AND TOILET ARTICLES. IS AT THE NEWCASTLE DRUG STORE. We have on hand now, as usual, a LARGE & FRESH SUPPLY of the different Medicines, Liniments, Cough Syrups, Tonics, Dypteric, Rheumatic, Kidney, Asthma and Catarrh Cures.

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COME TO THE NEW STORE. WATER STREET.

FOR YOUR GROCERIES, A NEW AND FRESH STOCK JUST OPENED.

E. A. STRANG.

WANTED, 5000 BUSHELS OATS, For which we will pay cash. E. A. STRANG.

FLOUR AND FEED DEPOT.

SHORTS, BRAN, CORNMEAL, CRACKED FEED, HAY AND OATS, Water St., Chatham. E. A. STRANG.

from Chatham, which is so often characterized by recklessness of statement, whether the subject relate to statecraft or parish politics. An item giving an allied utterance of His Lordship, Bishop Rogers on the Manitoba School question, which appeared in the Sun one day last week, was to those who know the man and the subject, either stupidly or maliciously absurd, and it has put His Lordship to the trouble of correcting it, for there are many people who, in times like the present, are prepared to make use of almost anything that will help them in their ulterior designs. The Sun ought not to be a paper in which so palpable a hoax to further the cause of a certain class of politicians ought to get its start through the country. As the Bishop did not mention Manitoba or the Manitoba question, the "narrative" is almost inexcusable.

A Slander. The Northumberland News gives publicity to "an open letter" in which the following appears:—This brings me down to the year 1873 when the McKenzie government were in power and appealed to the people—the Hon. Peter Mitchell ran then in the interests of the Conservatives and J. B. Snowball was returned by a large majority and sat four years in the opposition benches. Passing over the inaccuracy as to an election being held in 1873 we beg to state that the intimation that the proprietor of the ADVANCE ever received any gratuitous aid in establishing this paper, is absolutely without foundation, nor do we believe that Mr. Snowball ever collected any subscription of the kind named. Mr. Smith, who founded the ADVANCE in 1874, and still owns it, did so on his own responsibility, supplementing his own money with a sum borrowed and on which he paid principal and interest. It is an impudent falsehood for anyone—Liberal or Tory—to say that the ADVANCE ever received a subscription of any kind save the yearly price paid for the publication by its regular subscribers. As the News has given currency to the above-quoted statement, it ought to either apologise for it or publish the names of the persons who will state that they made up the alleged sum of "\$3,000 or \$4,000." The News makes a bad start in this misrepresenting the business affairs of another paper, and its editor ought to be more careful in such matters, if he wishes to have his own undertaking recognised as a legitimate one.

Northumberland is All Right. The Newcastle News takes a rather doleful view of the condition of Northumberland and its people just now, and it seems to blame the Dominion government for the alleged desolation around and over which it gazes, like Macaulay's Sandwich Islander, who sits on the ruins of London Bridge and views the wrecked vestiges of the world's metropolis. Our friend will have to brace up and feel better. There is no more reliable indication of the material and intellectual progress of a community than that furnished by the number of newspapers it supports, and judged by that standard, Northumberland affords evidence of prosperity against which the News must wail in vain. In 1881 we had only two newspapers in the whole County. Now, there are two in Newcastle, alone, and two in Chatham and, before a fortnight has passed, Chatham will have a third. It takes money—capital—to run newspapers, and it is very inconsistent for the publisher of the News to give us a practical illustration of his confidence in the substantial progress of the Miramichi by establishing a paper in it, and, in the first issue thereof, to proclaim that the place is going to the "damnation how wows."

A "CLEVER DOG"—The St. John Sun is quite a puzzle to its conservative friends hereabouts, who sometimes wonder at the complexion of its alleged news from Chatham, which is so often characterized by recklessness of statement, whether the subject relate to statecraft or parish politics. An item giving an allied utterance of His Lordship, Bishop Rogers on the Manitoba School question, which appeared in the Sun one day last week, was to those who know the man and the subject, either stupidly or maliciously absurd, and it has put His Lordship to the trouble of correcting it, for there are many people who, in times like the present, are prepared to make use of almost anything that will help them in their ulterior designs. The Sun ought not to be a paper in which so palpable a hoax to further the cause of a certain class of politicians ought to get its start through the country. As the Bishop did not mention Manitoba or the Manitoba question, the "narrative" is almost inexcusable.

A curious apparatus for utilizing a portion of the enormous amount of heat wasted in open fireplaces has been devised by J. J. Pillel, a French engineer. It has received the name of "Thermopire," and consists of an S shaped stovepipe connected at the lower end to the inner side of the center of a U-shaped stovepipe, the whole so arranged that when upheld by a support resting on the mantle the point of junction of the two pipes is just over the fire in the grate, the two ends of the horizontal U and the upper end of the upright S projecting backward into the room. The cold air near the fire is drawn into the ends of the U, quickly heated, and passes as a strong current of hot air out of the upper end of the S. The air of the room is thus kept in constant circulation through the pipes, which act as a very efficient and non-vitiating heater, and may be quickly put in place on the approach of a cold wave or removed when not needed.

A Hope of Teals and other electricians is that induction lighting may be made more economical than the incandescent lamp. Improvement in this direction has been sought by Mr. D. McFarlan Moore, of Newark, N. J., through a sharper and more rapid breaking of an electric current; and by using a mechanical circuit-breaker in a vacuum tube, placed with an induction coil in a direct current incandescent lighting circuit at 110 volts, he has obtained a brilliant white light in long vacuum tubes without expensive apparatus. The ends of the tubes, which are without electrodes, are coated with aluminum powder. The tubes are normally joined in the circuit by wires outside, but even this is not necessary, as they may be illuminated by being brought near a wire netting in the circuit.

In the botanic garden of the Jardin des Plantes, the medicinal plants have red labels, food plants green, ornamental plants yellow, art plants blue, and poisonous plants black labels.

A new safety cartridge, in which quicklime and dynamite are so arranged that the lime in striking heats a primer sufficiently to fire off the detonator embedded in the dynamite, is being used in the collieries at Polish Ostran, in Austria. The compound cartridge is enclosed in a bag of loose cotton, woven like a wick. The flame is confined to the interior of the cartridge, and even in a gallery containing 7 per cent of fire-damp and clouds of coal-dust neither gas nor dust was fired.

The ancient idea that we owe our digestion chiefly to the stomach is being discarded, Koenig having shown that this organ may be completely removed from the living animal. Other German physiologists suggest that the proper function of the stomach is to render harmless all sub-nutrients injurious to the bowels, the real digestive organs.

much better than glass bulb thermometers. Several numbers of a quarterly journal devoted to accounts of caverns in different parts of the world have been issued in Paris by the recently established Speleological Society.

THE RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC MINORITY in the Province of Manitoba have been invaded by the legislation of that Province, and as I have said before, the moment that conclusion is arrived at the power given them under the education act exclusively to legislate on the subject of education is removed and is transferred to the Dominion Parliament. I think no argument is called for in the face of this emphatic judgment of the Privy Council, in order to show if the claim on the part of the Government of Manitoba to exclusively legislate on the question of education is raised, that under the decision of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, by the legislation passed by the Province of Manitoba, they deliberately do exercise exclusive jurisdiction on the question of education; and no man, I hold, whether lawyer or layman, can read therein the emphatic statements made by the Lords of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council without arriving at the conclusion that the responsibility and the duty were transferred from the Legislature and Government of Manitoba and the duty imposed on the central Government of the Dominion and on the Parliament of the Dominion to legislate in respect to this case.

But, sir, it may be said, and I am rather surprised to hear a statement of that kind made, that the law says "nay" and that it does not say "shall." Is there any hon. member within the sound of my voice who will say that on ground of that kind YOU WILL TURN YOUR BACK ON A HELPLESS MINORITY, who are struggling for their privileges, of which they have been deprived by the Local Government, and who will say, "Yes, it is quite true that the Lords of the Judicial Committee say we may do it, but we intend to leave you to suffer in the face of the decision of the highest judicial authority that can be given in the empire?" A position of that kind would be unworthy of the Government of any civilized country. I hope no body of gentlemen who are entrusted with the high position of administering the government of Canada will ever show themselves behind a subterfuge so plain and transparent as that, and avoid that duty and that responsibility which have been thrown upon them in regard to one of the most vital, one of the most important, questions that can be presented. Sir, I have already told you that this clause was insisted upon in the interests not of Roman Catholics but of Protestants. I have told you we would have had no Confederation, the whole matter would have ended in hopeless failure, if we had refused to embody this

PROTECTION FOR THE PROTESTANT MINORITY IN QUEBEC, as represented by Alexander Galt. My colleagues who were there on that occasion will bear me out in the statement that so emphatic was Sir Alexander Galt on that question that until the conference would

agree to adopt that policy he was not prepared to take any hand or part or assist in any way whatever in accomplishing Confederation. Sir Hector Langwin—Hear, hear. Sir Charles Tupper—I say, moreover, that not only was this done in the interest of Protestants, but the valuable although brief compendium of the circumstances connected with Confederation which Mr. Pope has recently published shows that it was carried out upon the basis of the Province of New Brunswick and the Province of Nova Scotia, as well as the Provinces of Canada. ALL VOTED YES IN FAVOR OF THIS PROVISION which was for all time to come to protect the rights of the minority, whether Catholic or Protestant. But I say, independent of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council altogether, there is a higher law, and that is the great law that you should do unto others as you wish them to do unto you. I believe that the public sentiment of the country, when fully advised of the true position of this question, when considered in the light of history, in the light of evidence, that the overwhelming judgment of all classes and all creeds will be that the Government of Canada would be unworthy of the position it occupies, if it turned a deaf ear in a case made clear and established and declared in terms so unmistakable by the highest judicial tribunal in this empire, Mr. Speaker, one of the highest and most distinguished educationists in the Dominion of Canada, who himself is

A PROTESTANT AND A PRESBYTERIAN, has given a clear and emphatic enunciation of his views on this question—I refer to Sir William Dawson. Sir William was many years a Superintendent of Education in the Province of Nova Scotia, and from that post he has risen step by step and point by point until he has attained one of the most exalted and respected positions among educationists throughout the world. The British Association did him the honor, did itself the honor, to elect him as its President in consequence of his great educational attainments. I need not tell anyone who has anything of Sir William Dawson that he is a man who is not only a Protestant, but a Presbyterian of the sternest sort, and yet Sir William has declared, unwilling as these men usually are to take part in a discussion of this kind, and has published over his own signature the most clear and emphatic declaration it is possible for a man to publish as to the absolute necessity in the interest of good feeling and in the interest of justice and fair play towards different religions and races, that in taking these steps which the Dominion Government have most reluctantly taken, and have been impelled to take only by the sense of the duty which devolves on them, they have done what is most worthy, the warm, emphatic approval of one of the most distinguished Protestant educationists to be found in the whole of the Dominion of Canada.

I may say here that I have detained the House for some little time in regard to what has been accomplished by Confederation. I have felt warranted in doing it because I was in a position to show that this Confederation would not have become an established fact without embodying in the law that protection of the rights of the minority, both Catholic and Protestant, which does not exist in any other country, but it is a tribunal which stands apart from and beyond and above anything that touches political questions or considerations in Canada, and, therefore, you can look to that tribunal with unqualified confidence that the decision it will give is one upon which any person and every person may rely. After judging of the judgment of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council on the appeal of the Manitoba minority, Sir Charles continued: I think it will be impossible to find language clearer, language more unmistakable, to establish the positions that their Lordships have taken than that

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central or Provincial Governments, shall be sacredly guarded. (Hear, hear.) AN APPEAL FOR JUSTICE. I do not intend to detain the House by discussing this self-evident point at any great length, but I put it to you intelligent men, who recognize the fact that within this wide Dominion you have got over 41 per cent of the population Roman Catholics; I put it to gentlemen who may hold—and I think some have, without due consideration, held—rather narrow views on this subject, to put it to them whether, for any object that was not of the most transcendent importance, it would be right for the Government to refuse, or to grant redress in a case such as is presented on the present occasion, and to leave ranking in the minds of over 41 per cent of the entire population of the Dominion of Canada the sentiment that a Roman Catholic cannot in the Parliament of his country obtain the same just consideration that he would obtain if he were a Protestant. (Hear, hear.) I may say that the Government of the Province of Manitoba, while doing substantial justice to the rights of the minority, have been careful to secure as little as possible upon the Local Government.

IT IS NOT COERCION. No person can read this bill without seeing on the very face of it that it is not proposed that the Government of Canada should take action, under even this bill, by the appointment of a board, the appointment of the superintendents, the guarantee that the schools shall be of the same high character as that of the other schools in Manitoba, for before all this, the Government of the Province of Manitoba has the bill first to invite the Government of the Province of Manitoba to take action, and it is only when they refuse, and when the unpleasant and disagreeable duty is forced by the act of the Imperial Parliament upon the Dominion of Canada, that this Government proposes in the least degree to interfere with this matter. There is no coercion so far as the Dominion Government is concerned. There is not a line of coercion to be found in the bill from beginning to end. There is a simple, a most easy and natural provision to meet the interests of these people whose consciences deprive them of the opportunity of making use of such schools in Manitoba as they are now taxed to sustain.

PERFORMING A DUTY. Under these circumstances the Government have been compelled to adopt the policy which they have adopted, I need not say, in the face of great difficulty, because it is always an extremely unpleasant thing for any Government to find itself in a position in which there is a single member of their great political party that does not see eye to eye with them. In the face of even this difficulty the Government have been compelled, in justice to their own position and to their duty, to do what they have done, and to take the step they have taken. They have taken that step in the most moderate and temperate manner that was possible to be devised, and even down to the present hour they have been open to any suggestion by which the responsibility which is imposed upon them under the circumstances could be removed. They are still open to any suggestion from any quarter of any means which will remove the necessity of their being compelled to take action of this kind; and having done that, I have no hesitation in saying that the Government would feel that it was unworthy of the confidence of that great Conservative party who have enabled it to accomplish so much for Canada, that it was unworthy of the confidence of gentlemen on either side of this House, if on a question so momentous, so important, and so vital to the good government, progress and prosperity of Canada they were not prepared to lay down office if necessary, or to refer to the great intelligent electorate of this country for a decision as to whether they had discharged their duty or not. (Great cheering.)

MR. LAURIER, in opening, said that during his long parliamentary career never did he rise with a greater sense of security, never did he feel so strong in the conscientiousness of right as he did now, at this anxious moment, when in the name of the constitution so outrageously misinterpreted by the government, when in the name of peace and harmony in this land, when in the name of this minority which this bill pretends to help, when in the name of the young nation in which so many hopes are centered, he rose to ask this Parliament not to proceed any further with this bill. He pointed out that the burden of Sir Charles Tupper's speech was that the government in this instance are not free agents, but simply creatures of necessity, the tools, the instruments of the constitution, which, in this matter, leaves them no option, but compels them to bring forward the measure which they have now brought to the attention of the House. Referring to Sir Charles Tupper's historical sketch he said if the honorable gentleman, while he was tracing the history of Confederation, had recalled one page of it he would have known that coercion never yet led any people to good results. He said Sir Charles Tupper's mistake was that he said the people of Canada have been happy since Confederation, and he mentioned some of the disturbing questions that have arisen. Now again there is a wave of agitation and civil commotion in the country. The honorable gentleman seems to think lightly of this. He thought it would be misery if we had civil and religious war in this country. It would be misery, I grant; but if

RELIGIOUS WAR is to be brought in this country, by the action of this government, which, although it had the methods of persuasion in its hands, had chosen to take the methods of coercion in order to redress a wrong? There is one thing that is certain at this moment. The action of the people from all parts of the country is upon this matter, and whatever they do on their opinion upon this question, I believe we may hold as to the policy of the government, there is one thing which cannot be denied. These frequent recurrences of agitation and commotion are a severe strain, and a very severe strain, upon the tie which binds these provinces together. And the danger is all the more to be apprehended, if searching further about the cases which have brought about this commotion, you find that on every occasion there was one cause, and that was the failure of the constitution which abridges the independence or sovereignty of the legislatures. In one form or other such was the cause of these agitations. In view of these salutary facts it may be out of place at present to look further into the history of our country, and by the dangers through which we have passed, learn, if possible, to avoid the dangers with which we are threatened. The remedy to be sought and applied in such cases can be intelligently applied only after full and ample inquiry into the facts of the case, and after all means of conciliation have been exhausted and only as a last resort. These, in judgment, are the principles which ought to guide in this matter. And asserting these principles to be true, he said he would apply himself to a history of this case.

THE MANITOBA CASE. Mr. Laurier now took up the discussion of the Manitoba case. Sir Charles Tupper had taken credit to himself for the fact that the government acted in a spirit of fairness to the minority. If this government had

given the minority the same measure of justice it has given to other parties, the minority would have had redress of grievances long ago. In 1890 the Legislature of Manitoba passed four acts, which came up for review by the Minister of Justice and the government of Canada the following year. One of these was the act abolishing the French language as an official language; one was an act abolishing separate schools, one was an act establishing a cattle quarantine, and the last was an act dealing with public companies. Two of these acts were disallowed, and two were allowed to go into operation. Which were the acts which were disallowed? Were they the acts abolishing the French language and the separate schools? No; they were allowed to go into operation, and the acts disallowed were the act to establish the quarantine in Manitoba and to make certain provision with regard to public companies in Manitoba. They disallowed the first of these latter because they said there was another act passed by this Parliament which they know was never applied, and which was the cause of the scheduling of our cattle in England. The other act was with regard to public companies. It was disallowed for this reason, amongst others, that it would result in the confiscation of property under certain circumstances. Sir, confederation is one of the complaints of the minority in all their petitions. The power of disallowance has always been held by the government opposite to be essential to the admission of this confederation. If they ever had a fair chance of putting into operation the doctrine which they have always preached, they had it, not when they disallowed the cattle quarantine act, but when they did not disallow the Manitoba school act.

MR. LAURIER, in reply, said that the government had acted as the friends of the minority. He next referred to the petition sent to the Dominion government after the court had said the school act was valid, and said: Now, sir, the government, in my estimation, should have done just one thing above all others; when they received these petitions they should have investigated them; they should have ascertained the facts which were alleged by the minority of Manitoba in order to apply such remedy as the facts warranted, but they did not do it. They went into the matter as an answer to the claim of Sir Charles that the government had acted as the friends of the minority. He next referred to the petition sent to the Dominion government after the court had said the school act was valid, and said: Now, sir, the government, in my estimation, should have done just one thing above all others; when they received these petitions they should have investigated them; they should have ascertained the facts which were alleged by the minority of Manitoba in order to apply such remedy as the facts warranted, but they did not do it. They went into the matter as an answer to the claim of Sir Charles that the government had acted as the friends of the minority. He next referred to the petition sent to the Dominion government after the court had said the school act was valid, and said: Now, sir, the government, in my estimation, should have done just one thing above all others; when they received these petitions they should have investigated them; they should have ascertained the facts which were alleged by the minority of Manitoba in order to apply such remedy as the facts warranted, but they did not do it. They went into the matter as an answer to the claim of Sir Charles that the government had acted as the friends of the minority.

I arraign the policy of the government because upon every item in the question they were wrong from first to last. Why they should approach the government of Manitoba in a friendly instead of a hostile spirit in which they approached it? When the last judgment was rendered by the privy council why did this government not go themselves to the people of Manitoba and say to them: Here is the decree of the sovereign tribunal of this land; here is the judgment which says that the government of Canada and the parliament of Canada have a right to interfere in this matter. Do not compel us to take measures, but remedy this grievance yourselves. Had the government done this it is possible, nay, it is very probable, that the government of Manitoba, in the face of that decision, and of the privy Council, would have accepted this friendly suggestion. Why did not this government send an ambassador to Manitoba? Why did they not do at first what they did at the last hour? I admit this is a most crucial question, but it is all the more crucial that it has been bungled from first to last by the government. There are men in this House, I admit, who are against separate schools, but who would have no objection to the re-establishment of separate schools in Manitoba, provided they were established by Manitoba itself. There are men in this House who are in favor of separate schools, but who think very wrongly that it would not be advisable to interfere with the legislation of Manitoba at all except until all means of conciliation had been exhausted. In face of this perilous position I maintain to-day, and I submit it to the consideration of gentlemen of the other side, that the policy of the opposition affirmed since many years, reiterated upon more than one occasion, is the only policy which can satisfactorily deal with this question. The only policy which can remedy the grievance of the minority while at the same time not violently assaulting the privileges of the majority and obtaining greater wrong. This was the policy for my part adopted by me, and it was the first time the question came before the House, and upon this policy to-day I stand once more. We cannot forget this moment that the policy which I have advocated and maintained has not been favorably received in all quarters. Not many weeks ago I was told from high quarters in the church that I believe that unless I supported the school bill which was then being prepared by the government, and which we have now before us, I would incur the hostility of a great and powerful body.

A LIBERAL OF THE ENGLISH SCHOOL. Sir, this is too grave a phase of this question for me to pass by in silence. I am not only a man, even though I have the right to occupy a high position in the church to which I belong, but I am a man, I respect and I love it, but, sir, I am not of that school which has long dominated France and other countries of continental Europe which refuses ecclesiastics the right of having a voice in public affairs. No, I am a Liberal of the English school. I believe that it is the privilege of all subjects, whether high or low, whether rich or poor, whether ecclesiastic or layman, to participate in the administration of public affairs; to discuss, to influence, to persuade, even to the highest the right to dictate even to the lowest. I am here not representing Roman Catholics alone, but Protestants as well, and I must give an account of my stewardship to all classes. Here am I, a Roman Catholic of French extraction, entrusted by the confidence of the men who sit around me with great and important duties under our constitutional system of government. I am here the acknowledged leader of that great party composed of Roman Catholics and Protestants as well, in which Protestants must be the majority in every party. Am I to be told, that I, occupying such a position, am to be dictated to as to the course I am to take in this House by reasons that can appeal to the consciences of my fellow

there was a committee of inquiry and argument might have been offered. He said he was sorry that the government of Canada did not have an inquiry before which both parties, both the government of Manitoba and the Roman Catholics of Manitoba, might have been heard, and where everybody would have had the opportunity of presenting his views. If that had been done, it is probable that the question would have reached nearer to a settlement than it has to-day, even when the bill has been introduced, to restore the rights of the minority.

MR. FOSTER—Will my honorable friend allow me one question for the sake of clearness? What would he investigate? According to his arguments now it is not the allegation of a grievance as stated by the minority asking for the appeal, but the arguments advanced by a counsel as to what government should act.

MR. LAURIER—I am sorry that I have not had the power of making myself understood by the honorable gentleman. What I would investigate is precisely what is alleged in the petitions of the Roman Catholic minority, and among the things that are alleged in this petition are these:—First, that there was a compact made between them and the crown of England as represented by the government of Canada, whereby their schools were guaranteed to them; second, that the system of common schools is repugnant to their consciences; third, that schools established in Manitoba, though nominally public schools, are in reality Protestant schools.

REMEDIAL ORDERS, and this Parliament has the right to pass remedial legislation. But what I contend is that before this remedial order and this legislation are passed all the facts connected with these claims of the minority should be investigated, so as to give the government and Parliament of Canada something to act upon. Until this is done, I say the government cannot act in this matter without putting themselves in a false position.

MR. LAURIER, in reply, said that the government had acted as the friends of the minority. He next referred to the petition sent to the Dominion government after the court had said the school act was valid, and said: Now, sir, the government, in my estimation, should have done just one thing above all others; when they received these petitions they should have investigated them; they should have ascertained the facts which were alleged by the minority of Manitoba in order to apply such remedy as the facts warranted, but they did not do it. They went into the matter as an answer to the claim of Sir Charles that the government had acted as the friends of the minority. He next referred to the petition sent to the Dominion government after the court had said the school act was valid, and said: Now, sir, the government, in my estimation, should have done just one thing above all others; when they received these petitions they should have investigated them; they should have ascertained the facts which were alleged by the minority of Manitoba in order to apply such remedy as the facts warranted, but they did not do it. They went into the matter as an answer to the claim of Sir Charles that the government had acted as the friends of the minority.