

The Review.

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RICHIBUCTO, N. B., APRIL 8, 1897.

CHINESE AND JAPS.

The people of British Columbia seem to be determined to keep out immigrants from Eastern nations, and not content with asking that the capitation tax on Chinese be raised from \$50 to \$500, are now after the Japanese who are represented as coming into British Columbia in large numbers. Rev. Mr. Maxwell, M. P., has presented a petition on the subject. It states that the large influx of Japanese is a serious menace to the prosperity and material development of this country, that the Japs are accustomed to a low standard of living, and are, therefore, willing to accept a lower scale of wages; that they are seriously competing with white labor, and indeed, in many cases leading to the exclusion of white laborers. The petition goes on to say that there is danger of the province becoming Orientalized. It is, therefore, urged that the term of residence in Canada for Japanese before they can become naturalized should be increased from three to five years, that the evidence of residence in Canada shall be given in open court, and that it shall be verified by the production of the passport which is issued by the Japanese government to all its subjects on leaving Japan for foreign countries. Consul-General Nosse's visit to Ottawa has anticipated this petition. Mr. Nosse says the statements about the influx of Japanese are grossly exaggerated, there being only 800 Japs in the whole of Canada.

THE DINGLEY TARIFF.

Already the more far-seeing of the American people are beginning to distrust the wisdom of the high rates of duty imposed by the Dingley tariff. The Canadian Government has no choice left but to raise a barrier against American goods at least as formidable as that raised on the other side of the line. Uncle Sam is unable to get along without trading with us—their pulp mills need our wood, their cities need our fish and farm products, and there are a great many other things which the people of the U. S. wish to buy from us. The Dingley bill will place all these things practically beyond the reach of the American people. Thus the people will soon begin to clamour for relief. It is not only from Canada that the Americans may expect retaliatory measures. Jamaica proposes raising the duties on goods bought in the U. S., and France is threatening almost prohibitive measures on American importations.

Great Britain, too, will put up with no nonsense from brother Jonathan, especially as she can afford to be independent. The hot-headed American politicians may have time to cool off while contemplating the hardships they have courted.

The business men of Canada are finding fault—and they seem to have reason—with the tardiness of the government in bringing down their tariff policy. Still the hue and cry raised by the Liberal papers about Mr. Fielding giving his friends in Nova Scotia a tip in regard to the proposed duty on coal seems unjustifiable.

The repairs which it is at present proposed to make on the Kingston bridge, is of the most meagre kind and may prevent the dangerous spans from tumbling for a few weeks. We take it from this that the local government intend building the new stone bridge the coming summer.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

OTTAWA, March 31.—Mr. Fitzpatrick resumed the debate on the address, and proceeded to deal with the criticisms of himself in connection with the Manitoba school question. As a Roman Catholic, he felt that secular and religious teaching should go hand-in-hand, and where obtainable he believed the Separate school system was the best. That was his conviction independently altogether of the question of the Privy Council judgment. This was what he himself would seek to obtain for the Roman Catholic minority. He believed the minority would not get all that they should get, or all that they ought to contend for, at the same time, he said, it was utterly out of the question under existing conditions that in this House they should endeavour to give the minority more than they had got. He would not ask the minority to take the settlement as final—(Opposition cries of "Oh, oh")—but to take it in the spirit in which it was given.

Mr. Ives—I understood from the speech from the throne that the matter is settled. I understand now from the hon. gentleman's remarks that it is not settled.

Mr. Fitzpatrick—The hon. gentleman may draw such conclusions as he likes. I have no doubt he is honest in his conclusions. Continuing, he said:—"Now, Mr. Speaker, I wish to say a word on another subject of what has been styled the mission to Rome, or the mission as told by the emissary to Rome."

Mr. Foster—Tell us all you did there.

Mr. Fitzpatrick—I could tell you a lot of interesting things, but I may say this in all seriousness, that I went to Rome. And I came back, and after I came back somebody else went. But, sir, speaking seriously, I went to Rome, not on behalf of the Government of the Dominion of Canada, nor in the interest of the Government of the Dominion of Canada.

Perhaps I have said it too often already, and my remarks will not be considered of a too personal character, and that hon. gentleman will not believe I am continually talking about myself. I went to Rome as I already stated, as a Roman Catholic, to bring a grievance that I felt I had in common with other Roman Catholic before the head of my Church. I will say this, that it is to me, and, I believe, to many others, a source of comfort, a source of gratification, to feel that while we belong to a religious body in which there are more than two hundred and forty million of subjects, anyone, however humble he may be, can go to Rome, and within two days after he reaches there go to the head of the Church and tell him the grievance, and he will be listened to and heard. That is what I did, and that is what I boast of. I say that any man who belongs to a Church that can accomplish such a thing as that has something to boast of. There are few people, perhaps, who realize what the Pope's influence is. Men talk about the British Empire, about Russia, Germany and France, and one imagines when he speaks of these countries he has spoken of about all the power there is on earth, when he speaks of the Queen of England or the Emperor of Russia or the Emperor of Germany. All that influence is nothing compared with the influence wielded by him who presides at the Vatican. If the House will bear with me, I will read one or two words written by Justin McCarthy, the historian, on this subject. Justin McCarthy says:—"The Pope is understood to have an influence and the right of intervention, so far as advice goes, in every country in the world. There is not a parish priest appointed in Ireland without the knowledge and authority of the Pope. There is not a Catholic bishop made in any country of the world, civilized or uncivilized, without his authority and approval. He nominates the men who are to risk their lives in preaching the Gospel in China, and the men who are as missionaries to brave the terrors of death in spreading the light of Christianity over countries still less civilized and far more barbarous than China. The Vatican is compelled to have its eye, and its intellect, and its heart fixed on every nook and corner in the world. There is no administrative system on earth which has anything like the same widespread and watchful and necessary superintendence. The network of the Papal authority has a mesh wherever men are living. The Vatican is in this sense the centre of the earth." Why did I go to Rome?

Some Hon. Members—Give it up.

Mr. Fitzpatrick—Here is the reason—not in my words, because I cannot find words to convey my ideas to the world. (Quoting from Satolli):—"The State has nothing to fear, but everything to hope, for the existence of the Catholic Church in their midst. It has everything to hope and nothing to fear, not only as regards its independence and constitutional liberty but as regards the liberty of political parties as well, to none of which does the Church or the Pope desire that Catholic interests should bind themselves. The Church holds herself on a higher plane, and looks only to the common good, to the reign of truth, justice, and peace." That is why I went to Rome.

Mr. Dupont asserted that Mr. Fitzpatrick had utterly failed to justify his conduct in abandoning the rights of the minority. There was not a Quebec Liberal member who had not promised to see that the rights of the minority were restored.

PETITION TO THE POPE.

Mr. Tarte said the Government had nothing to conceal in the matter of the Manitoba school question. The Government was not responsible for the sending of an emissary to Rome, but he was free to admit that a number of members of the Liberal party had grouped together

for the purpose of having a Papal delegate come to this country. (Hear, hear.) For the information of the House he would read the document, which was signed by forty-five members of the House of whom he was proud to confess he was one, and which was presented to his Holiness. It was as follows:— To his Holiness Leo XIII.:

Most Holy Father,—We, the undersigned members of the Senate and members of the House of Commons of Canada and representing therein the Liberal party present ourselves before your Holiness as respectful and devoted children of the Holy Church, to complain of the existence of a state of things which, if allowed to continue, might be extremely dangerous to the constitutional liberties of this country, as well as to the interests of the Church itself.

Your Holiness has already been made aware of the conduct and attitude of certain prelates and of certain members of the secular clergy, who, during the general elections in this country in the month of June last, intervened in a violent manner in restraint of electoral freedom, taking sides openly for the Conservative party against the Liberal party, and going so far as to declare guilty of grievous sin those of the electors who would vote for the candidates of the Liberal party.

Sincerely attached to the institutions of our country, which ensure to us Catholics and most complete liberty we respectfully represent to your Holiness that these democratic institutions under which we live, and for which your Holiness has many times expressed sentiments of admiration and confidence, can only exist under a perfect electoral freedom. Far be it from us to refuse to the clergy the plenitude of civil and political rights. The priest is a citizen, and we would not for a single instant deprive him of the right of expressing his opinion on any matter submitted to the electorate, but when the exercise of that right develops into violence, and when that violence, in the name of religion goes to the extent of making a grievous sin out of a purely political act, there is an abuse of authority of which the consequences cannot be fatal, not only to constitutional liberty, but to religion itself. If, in a country such as ours, with a population consisting of persons of various creeds, and wherein the Protestant denominations are in the majority, Catholics did not enjoy in all matters relating to legislation the same political freedom as their Protestant fellow-countrymen, they would, ipso facto, be placed in a position of inferiority which would prevent them from taking the legitimate part which they are entitled to take in the Government of the country with the possibility, moreover, of conflicts between the various groups of the population, which history shows to be ever fraught with danger.

Then, again, an active and violent intervention of the clergy in the domain of political questions submitted to the people must of necessity produce amongst the great mass of the Catholic population a degree of irritation manifestly prejudicial to that respect which religion and its ministers should ever inspire and command. Some twenty years ago his Holiness Pius the IX., your illustrious and lamented predecessor of the Pontifical throne acting through the Sacred Congregation of the Propaganda, deemed it his duty to put a stop to certain abuses of a similar character, and forbade the intervention of the clergy in politics. This prohibition was generally respected so long as his Eminence Cardinal Taschereau was able to guide the church in Canada, but since old age and infirmities have paralysed his guiding hand, the abuses to which your illustrious predecessor had put a stop have begun again, and threaten once more to create trouble among us, and to compromise not only Catholic interests in this country, but the peace and harmony which should exist between the various elements of our population.

Again affirming our absolute devotion to the faith of our Fathers and to the Church, of which you are the supreme head; affirming our respect and attachment for the person of your Holiness, our attachment to the interests of our country and to the Crown of Great Britain, its aegis and protector, we beg that your Holiness will renew in our behalf the most wise prescriptions and prohibitions of your predecessor; protect the consciences of the Catholic electors, and thus secure peace in our country by the union of religion and liberty; a union which your Holiness has many times extolled in those immortal encyclicals whose precious teachings we desire in all things to follow; and, lastly, grant to the children of the Church now addressing your Holiness the Apostolic benediction.

Ottawa, October, 1896.

Continuing, and speaking of pledges, he said nearly every Tory candidate also took them, and was beaten out of his boots, notwithstanding. (Laughter.) He declared that some of the five bishops who went to Rome asserted that the Canadian Premier was a very bad Roman Catholic, indeed, and the hon. leader of the Opposition a pious man. An evidence of the hostility of the bishops to himself was to be found in the fact that, without any warning, his son's paper had been placed under the ban.

Major Hughes—I'm under the ban, too. (Laughter.)

Mr. Tarte—It was all very well, he said to taunt the Liberal party with having gone to Rome, and they had gone in the interest of liberty—(hear, hear)—while hon. gentlemen opposite had gone to stifle liberty. He thought the mission of the Papal delegate would be fruitful. He was young, but a man of great ability. On the subject of the commercial condition of the country, he asserted that general prosperity prevailed. Speaking of his own department, he said he had had to dismiss a number of officials because they were incompetent. Such a course was not pleasant, but the country must be protected. Speaking for himself, whenever he found one of his employes that was not loyal to him he would dismiss him at once. He would dismiss him if he only had suspicions.

Mr. McInerney said that Mr. Tarte, finding he had nothing to expect from the Church, was now reviling the hierarchy. Until Mr. Quinn had read from the London Tablet a statement showing that four or five members of the Government, and forty five members of the Senate and House of Commons, had petitioned the Pope to send a delegate to Canada wild horses could not drag from him or from any other member of the Government an admission that they had any part in the visit of the Papal legate. He would now ask Mr. Tarte was the petition read the only one sent to Rome?

Mr. Tarte—Yes, I did not sign anything else, nor did anybody else.

Mr. McInerney—Will the hon. gentleman say he does not know of any other petitions or charges that were signed?

Mr. Tarte—I never signed anything else.

Mr. McInerney—Do you know whether other petitions or charges were signed?

At this juncture considerable interruption came from the Government benches, and Mr. Lister shouted some remark about Mr. McInerney not being in a magistrate's court.

Mr. McInerney—The hon. gentleman who has just spoken is best at home in the Police Court, and he might almost pass for a first class bully in the ring.

Loud shouts of "Order" and "Take it back" were raised by the Ministerialists, and Deputy Speaker Brodeur asked for the withdrawal of the expression.

Mr. McInerney said he was quite willing, if he had used any offensive expression, to withdraw it. Proceeding he said that Mr. Tarte had declined to state whether charges or petitions were sent to Rome other than the one he had read to the House.

Mr. Tarte—I state that to my knowledge no other petitions have been sent. I did not sign anything else.

Mr. McInerney said he had been informed that other charges had been forwarded to Rome, containing complaints against certain of the clergy of Quebec. He was bound to accept Mr. Tarte's statement, but he was surprised to find that the Minister of Public Works was in ignorance of the facts stated. Proceeding Mr. McInerney justified the banning of publications which strove to undermine the Church or the State. Mr. L. O. David's pamphlet was banned because it justified people in seeking redress by open rebellion.

Mr. Tarte, rising amidst shouts of "Order," said—My friend is altogether wrong.

A Voice—Take your medicine.

Mr. Tarte—The hon. gentleman has never read the book. There is not a word of truth in his statement.

Mr. McInerney asked to be allowed to proceed without interruptions. He repeated the statement he had made regarding Mr. David's pamphlet, and said that L'Electeur was also banned for reprinting the objectionable pamphlet, word for word. Why, he asked, had the Cabinet been chosen from men who had not been heard in this House? Because it was necessary to have men who were not discredited in the party, and who were not too much on record as to the tariff. (Hear.) He found nothing in the speech in favour of continental union, unrestricted reciprocity, or free trade. Why had these well known planks in the Liberal party been overlooked? By consent of the House he moved the adjournment of the debate.

OTTAWA, April 1.—Mr. McInerney resumed the debate on the address. He again took up and compared the flimsy, ambiguous, and equivocal statement of the tariff policy in the speech from the throne with the manly, straightforward, and distinct declarations of policy announced by Liberal leaders in years gone by. He predicted that the smiling cynicism of the members of the Government in changing the policy to which they had consecrated the efforts of their lives would not meet with the approval of the country, and that when the history of the tariff policy of 1897 came to be written, the position taken by the Liberal party would be known as the great somersault act of the Laurier-Mowat combination. (Opposition cheers.) Among utterances of Liberals in denunciation of protection Mr. McInerney quoted an opinion by Mr. Macdonald condemning the coal oil duty. In the event of the Government retaining the duty on coal oil, would that hon. gentleman, he asked, pursue a consistent and honourable course, and decline to support them?

(Continued on page 6.)

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