

ority, against their interest, without asking the interested party to accept or to refuse the compromise. What have we seen? We have seen the Catholic minority rejecting that compromise, and to-day if the hon. minister is not deaf—if he wants to listen to the voice of the minority in Manitoba, he will hear the representatives of that minority crying out that justice has not been rendered yet. He will hear the representatives of that minority telling him that that question has not been settled yet. The hon. minister refers to what took place in the last election in the province of Quebec, but he seems to be mixed up and to ignore totally what took place. In our province the question put before the electors was very clear and well defined. The Prime Minister, at that time the leader of the opposition, said: 'Sir Charles Tupper and the Conservative party have tried to settle the Manitoba school question by a Remedial Bill, but that Remedial Bill was not worth the paper on which it was written. I will do better. I will give to the Roman Catholic minority of that province all its rights and if I cannot succeed by conciliation, I will have recourse to what the law empowers me to do.' The hon. gentleman promised the province of Quebec that he would do better than his predecessors, and the vote of the province of Quebec was given to Sir Wilfrid Laurier. Why? Because he promised to do better than Sir Charles Tupper and the other leaders of the Conservative party. In the province of Quebec all the candidates of both parties were in favour of the remedies that were asked for the Roman Catholic minority in Manitoba. The elections of 1896 were not a condemnation of Sir Charles Tupper's policy. If Mr. Laurier secured a majority in his favour, it was solely because he promised that he would do more than Sir Charles Tupper had done, and yet the hon. minister says that the province of Quebec and the majority in the other provinces condemned the course taken by the late government. It might be that persons who 'know nothing may, at first sight, look at those elections as a condemnation, but how could they at the same time ignore that the people that were elected were obliged, in order to be elected, to sign a declaration by which they pledged themselves to grant more than was promised

by the late government. Does the hon. minister ignore those facts? If he ignores them, he is not fit to occupy the position he occupies as one of the advisers of the Crown.

Hon. Mr. MILLS—Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—If he does not ignore them, why does he try to-day, by his answers to serve the interests of his own party against all notions of justice, by a fantastical relation of facts which did not happen? That Manitoba school question brought the hon. minister's party to power. We can see now in what way. The hon. gentleman says no. What was the division in all the Dominion? Setting aside for the moment the province of Quebec, both parties in the rest of the Dominion were about equally divided. The majority gained by the government in the elections of 1896, was composed of precisely the majority obtained in Quebec. That was their position and we see now how their majority was obtained. Will the hon. gentleman now deny that he did not come into power solely by that question? I will venture to make a prediction to the honourable minister; I can tell him that he will go out of power on the same question. His party promised justice. What has it given? It has given us stones in place of the bread promised not only to the people of Quebec but to all the provinces. Those flagrant violations of their most solemn pledges will turn against the Liberal party. The hon. ministers to-day are unable to face the situation. They have failed in all their efforts to try to remedy that question. And why? Because they did not accept the offer made by them by the chief of the Conservative party in the House of Commons, when Sir Charles Tupper rose in his seat in the House of Commons to promise to the Prime Minister to give him all his help to settle that question. Here is without any possible doubt a question of public policy. It was put to the hon. minister, and I ask him why did not the Prime Minister accept this offer? What is the answer of the hon. minister? The only answer he gave was to tell us that Messrs. Taylor, Wallace and McLean have made certain declarations on another subject. We know all that, and it is a very childish answer from the Minister of Justice, who has a reputation to sustain, to come and tell us that the parties who are