

and entitled, "An Act for the Temporary Government of Rupert's Land, and the North-Western Territory when united with Canada," is hereby re enacted, extended and continued in force until the first day of January, 1871, and until the end of the Session of Parliament then next succeeding.

The Manitoba Act has been subjected to severe criticism, and as gross misrepresentations of its provisions have been publicly made by gentlemen who ought to have been better informed, it may be proper to offer a few observations on it. The chief complaint has been with reference to the grant of public lands which it has been alleged was made for the benefit of Roman Catholics, and with a view of its getting into the hands of the priests. Now, it will appear, on reference to the 31st section of the Act, that the land is to be set apart "for the benefit of the families of the half breed residents," and it has been stated by Dr. Schultz, that the proportion of half-breeds who are Protestants is fully 6 to 4 Roman Catholics; Colonel Dennis, as will be seen by reference to his statements, gives the French half-breeds as one-fourth or one-fifth of the settlement. In view of Colonel Dennis' statements as to the importance of quieting the strong feeling among the resident settlers on the subject the 31st and 32nd Clauses of the Act were indispensable.

On the 4th May, Sir John Young telegraphed as follows: "Instructions will be sent to Rose to-day by telegram to pay over £300,000. Imperial Government are at liberty to make the transfer of the territory any time before the end of June. But Canada wishes it to be made not immediately nor without giving due notice by telegram." On the 6th May, Sir John Young again telegraphed: "I may