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the public.

# The Northwest Review

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6.

#### SIFTON SIFTED.

be sure, there was in it none of that "high moral tone" which he sneeringly attributed to Mr. Fisher's admirable speech. Nor was his, like the latter's eloquence, instinct with intellectual fervor. No; it was merely an appeal to considering Mr. Sifton's purpose -and justifies the means, be they ever so bad -it was a very clever and very wicked campaign speech, in fact a masterpiece of wickedness. The newspaper reports give no adequate idea of the malice of tone and language that pervaded it. Neither do they chronicle the applause with which its worst passages were punctuated. Mr. Sifton spoke of illiter- knowledge he has not a dream. acy as if that term were synomymous with ignorance, which it is not; and he was all the while playing upon the ignorant prejudices of the majority of his hearers and of the great mass of the Manitoba and Ontario readers of his printed words. None of those benighted multitudes are illiterate; they can all read more or less laboriously, and understand most of the words that are not polysilables; and yet they are profoundly ignorant, as their applause testifies. Sitton's repeated disclaimer of you(hful have written and discoursed so largely 1889.) Had M. Sifton been addressing a crowd of Mexican mule-drivers, or Patagonian herdsmen, or even a gathering of Blood Indians, these untutored but intelligent men would have seen through his low cunning and base flattery of the mob; they would have jeered instead of cheering him. But he knew his ground; he knew he was talking to the most hidebound slaves of prejudice and misrepre. sentation in the wide world. So, while he evoked the bugbear of the Roman Catholic clergy overriding the people of this country, he himself rode the Protestant horse roughshod over the reasonable convictions of every Catholic in the land, chewing meanwhite and expectorating that venerable chestnut about a priest-ridden people. Well, what if we are willing to follow our priests? Is not this better than being Siftonized as are the unreflecting multitudes about us? Our priests are dispassionate, logical, well informed as to all the rare and much lauded virtues of their Protestant brethren. Mr. Sifton is virulent, illogical and wilfully ignorant of our unadvertized but numerous virtues. The only Catholics he seems to know are the two -unless he was lying, there must be two. since he uses the plural; two out of 20 000, the one-hundredth part of one per cent !-who went to his office and sired tears over their sad plight in being obliged not to send their children to the public schools. And these are at heart Protestants masquerading as Catholics.

Mr. Sifton read statistics to show the general illiteracy of people in Catholic countries, and said it would be a shame and a disgrace to perpetuate such a state of affairs in this country. Those statistics bore a striking resemblance to the purposely falsified figures which were circulated on this subject during the Provincial election of 1892. We should like to go behind Mr. Sifton's alleged statistics. We have others in hand that flatly contradict his. Alfred Young's Catholic and Protestant Countries Compared (1895) such a task and we shall largely confine again, there is another and a fundamenquotes Mulhall's Dictionary of Statistics ourself in giving expressions to the tal christian doctrine, the disregard or as proving that the average attendance thoughts of others who were better qua- imperfect recognition of which lies at of school children is greater in Bavaria lified for such a task. and Baden (with two-thirds of the popu-

than in the United States, greater in

Spain than in Canada. nadians to whom the English authoriped as compared with Protestants who A Catholic correspondent wanted in every important town.

The Northwest Review is the official organ for Manitoba and the Northwest of the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association.

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Address all Communications to The Rose Service Review. Post office Box 508, Winnipeg, Man. misicading some pre.entious examination papers are, how they have a very answer when their high-flown jargon has been dinned into the pupils' ears from day to day. Take, for instance, the Public School Geography and the Public School Grammar, both in general use here, both pompous monuments of pedagogic ineptitude. Any pupil with a good memory would astonish the elder generation by the long words he could repeat out of these ridiculous text-books, though he really knew precious little grammar or geography. But the simplicity of the ered "a disgrace to any civilized coun-Mr. Sifton's speech last Wednesday vacuous popular brain). In point of fact, on the School case was a great effort. To | not one half of them touched on religion; that so great a crime? Is it so contrary to what Mr. Siston calls, with his usual popular and unreasoning passions. But, the civilized world at the fag end of from his point of view the end always think so. On the contrary, the most enlightened portion of the human race, the only one that is not overridden by shallow demagogues and word-mongers of the Sifton type, thinks that religious questions are the most important of all and that the man who spurns them might as well elect to live in a wilderness of anthropoid apes, for of valuable

> These two arguments—garbled statistics of illiteracy and a solitary specimen of an examination paper unfairly unearthed out of the remote past-were Mr. Sifton's chief weapons of attack. other points. First, he was stung to the would turn from Mr. Sifton and Mr. Cameron to men of maturer judgment. Evidently this was a home thrust. Mr. rashness shows there must be a latent consciousness of his own juvenile game of bluff. Secondly, over and over again did he try to wriggle off the lance on single word spoken by him has been rewhich Mr. Fisher had impaled him by reminding him of the St. Francois Xavier pledge. His contortions were amusing. He began by asking what power Mr. Martin had to bind the Libhis dinner and thought over the weakness of this defence, he came back to the speech; but, not being able to excogi- in the economy of redemption; and it tate any value excuse, he fumed and may safely be affirmed that the more stormed and declared that the idea of an individual binding a government was 'ridiculously absurd, the argument of a schoolboy." Of course he said nothing about the same individual having be-n the firstto conceive and hurry on the project of a law which was? a flagrant violation of his own promise. Had that individual raised his voice in protest against the action of his party, he would have been excusable; but the real charge, which Mr. Sifton did not hint at, is that the promise business was a deliberate election ruse, a promise, as we said lately, made for one purpose and broken for another.

Verily, Mr. Sifton's speech was a great effort, but only an effort. Morally and intellectually, it was a brilliant failure. However, the event is a fine instance of the results of godless education: a man of great ability prostituting his talents in the cause of oppression, and a majority of members so ignorant and prejudiced as to applaud him.

# THE MONTH OF ST. JOSEPH.

Our Holy Mother, the Catholic Church, ever mindful of the wants of her dear children here below, has set aside the merits were commensurate with his month of March as a time of special de- dignity, and therefore it is that he ranks votion to our Gracious Patron, St. Joseph. In writing the praises of St. Joseph we and is seated in glory so nigh unto the feel very keenly our unworthiness for Throne of the Incarnate Word. But

condition of social and family life, caused man now that he is seated in Heaven a by the absence of religion and morality the right hand of the Eternal Father as Then the Attorney-General trotted at the family hearth; when we witness out that examination paper for a Teach- the indifference of society to the holy salem and the ways of Galilee. The er's First Class certificate which was ex- | bonds of matrimony and the religious | Incarnate God, enthroned in His Majeshibited on all the hustings of the pro- education of children, we are forced to vince at the last election. He took good the conclusion that a model of the high care not to tell us that that paper was est and purest type of domestic life set in the first years of the existence of must be held up for the world's admirathe Catholic Board of Education, when tion and example. Where can be found the staff of Catholic teachers was neces- a better or a higher model of all these sarily in an embryo condition, because virtues than that of our Glorious Patrithe Catholic population, being then arch, St. Joseph. It is no uncommon mainly the descendants of French Can- | idea, even among Catholics, that the devotion paid to St. Joseph and the lofty of his intercession. His Foster Child is ties at Quebec had denied all educa- estimate of his prerogatives now pretional assistance, were sadly handicap- vailing in the church are innovations of comparatively modern date and that had suffered no Government persecu- they have no precedent or sanction in tion, and who came here equipped antiquity. But this is far from being well, because on the feast of St. Joseph, with the accumulated resources of past the case. In the writings of the ancient this 19th of March, the Most Rev. Dr. generations. Mr. Silton was probably Fathers are to be found, not only what not aware of this all-sufficient excuse for may be called prolific germs, but also bishop of St. Boniface, in succession to any apparent shortcomings, though, had positive and explicit statements of doc- the late illustrious Archbishop Tache. he known of it, he would probably have trine, which sufficiently show how deep made no mention of it. It suited his in the consciousness of the church lay purpose to be wickedly and cruelly un-the belief of St. Joseph's dignity and sanctity, and how definite a shape it had ful of every good to the church, and that assumed even in the early ages. The him most. He knows very well how devotion paid to him has, it is true, been more distinctly formulated in later centuries, when his place in the celestial learned look and yet are very easy to hierarchy came to be more fully recognized; but from the first this great saint most powerful saint, solitary in his had a peculiar attraction for many holy grandeur as in his endowments, we and gifted souls, who regarded him with humbly implore his blessing on our dear singular veneration and affection. The Northwest Review, on the Catholic inchurch brings out of her treasury things terests which it is humbly advocating, both old and new, according as the especially on our Catholic schools, and exigencies of the time require; and this the youth therein trained, and lastly on is specially true of the devotions which | those good Catholics who are aiding us have arisen from age to age and have received her ready sanction, or, rather, have been joyfully welcomed and embraced as the fulfilment of her heart's questions is not what Mr. Sifton consid. desire. Thus the devotion to our blessed Lady, though dating from apostolic try." He likes to repeat set phrases times, received a powerful influence at and current platitudes; they tickle the the Council of Ephesus, where the dog- them the special protection of the guarma of the Divine Maternity was proclaimed in opposition to the heresy of and so "nearly all" is a mendacious ex- Nestorius; and among other instances aggeration. But, even if they did, is may be mentioned the ardent devotion to the holy places, which resulted in the Crusades; the public and solemn adorafondness for shibboleths, "nineteenth tion of the Blessed Sacrament, which century ideas"? More than one half of found its satisfaction in the Feast of also. Corpus Christi and Rite of Benediction; this overestimated century does not and at later epochs, the devotion of the Sacred Heart and the several mysteries of the fatherly love wherewith thou of the passion in all their pathetic de- didst cherish the Child Jesus, thou will tails; the Five Wounds; the Precious Blood; and in our own days, renewed devotion to the Adorable Face of our Lord. But what is more remarkable about the devotion to St. Joseph is that, after centuries of obscurity and apparent oblivion, it received a sudden and mighty impulse, which carried it, as it were, at a bound into the hearts of the Christian populations and disseminated and planted it in every clime. Or, rather, peril of life, so now defend the holy we may say that the breath of God's church of God from the snares of ner Holy Spirit quickened into life and ener-Much of his speech was spent on two gy the devotion which lay, as it were, following thy example and borne up by other points. First, he was stung to the dormant and passive in the hearts of the thy strength, we may be able to live hol-quick by Mr. Fisher's remark that he faithful, and rapidly stirred the smoul- ily die happily, and so enter into the everdering fire into a blaze

If to some it may be a matter of surprise that Saints and doctors should and so eloquently respecting one of whom it might appear scant notice is taken in the Gospels, and of whom no they study him in his several aspects, as presented in Holy Writ, the more will his grandeurs open upon them and the deeper and the higher will be their God and to be His and Her guardian matter. and protector; he was the chosen minister of the counsels of the Most High in the mystery of the Incarnation; he was for years the habitual companion both of Mary and Jesus; he bore the Divine Child constantly in his arms, lovingly caressed Him, and received His caresses in return; to him, as to His Blessed Mother, Jesus was subject in the house and workshop of Nazareth; he was as father and tutor to Him: he was the daily witness of His hidden life, and heard the sacred words that fell from his lips, all through his boyhood, youth and early manhood; and he had the unspeakable happiness of dying in His embrace. But farther, with this sublime vocation and these incomparable virtues St. Joseph fully corresponded. His next to Mary in the Court of Heaven

he was when He trod the streets of Jeruty on high is still our Brother-Man. Thus being ever perfect Man as well as perfect God, as He had a mother and foster-father on earth, so now in Heaven Mary is still His mother and St. Joseph retains the honored name of father. The ties of their human relationship still endure and will endure forever. Hence the dignity of St. Joseph and the power the Almighty and Adorable God. This month of March should be a prayerful month for the Catholics of Manitoba and in fact of the Northwest Territories as Langevin will be consecrated Arch-Between now and the date of his consecration let us all say a prayer to St. Joseph that his Episcopate may be fruithe may soon have the joy of seeing peace and prosperity once more reign-

ing among all citizens of Manitoba. And now once more humbly kneeling at the feet of this great Patriarch and in any way in the work in which we are engaged. There is nothing so dear to us as our Catholic youth; they are the hope of the Church and of the country. Misguided men would rob them of their dearest heritage-their Catholic faith; we cannot do better than implore for culate Mother.

## Prayer to St. Joseph.

We come to thee, O Blessed Joseph, in our sore distress, and having sought the help of thy Most Blessed Spouse, we now confidently implore thy assistance

We humbly beg that, mindful of the dutiful affection which bound thee to the Immaculate Virgin Mother of God and lovingly watch over the heritage which Jesus Christ purchased with His Blood, and of thy strength and power help us

in our urgent need. O Most Provident Guardian of the Divine Family, protect the chosen race loving Father, every pest of error and corrupting sin; from thy place in Heaven most powerful deliverer, graciously come to our aid in this conflict with the power of darkness; and as, of old thou didst deliver the Child Jesus from supreme enemies and from all adversity; have lasting bliss of Heaven. Amen.

An indulgence of 7 years and 7 quar antines for each recital of the above prayer. (Pope Leo XIII, August 15th

# GLAD; TONE VERSUS SIFTON.

Mr. Gladstone, in a communication rebeen proposed by the Holy See pages of the Nineteenth Century, an unto the veneration and devotion of denominational system of religion frameral party. And then, having been to the faithful as Patron and Guardian of ed by or under the authority of the state the Universal Church, this can only be is a moral monster. The state has no because they have never sufficiently charter from heaven such as may belong subject in the after-dinner part of his considered what was St. Joseph's position to the Church or the individual conscience." That places the whole question of education sententionally before otherwise, and it may be that in certain circles in Manitoba he will be accepted as an authority superior to the Grand Old Man. The mass of the thinking and was St. Joseph? And what were the difficulty in coming to a conclusion as to enjoyed? He was predestined to be the the nineteenth century they will choose

# THE SCHOOL CASE.

The Appeal Being Heard at Ottawa-The Indispensible " Corporal."

After being adjourned for one week at the request of the Local Government, the hearing of the appeal in the school who represents the Catholic minority Government, have both addressed the tice. Cabinet at considerable length, and Mr. J. O'Donoghue (the indispensible "corporal") exposed the object of his visit to the Dominion capital by attending and reading a long statement, in which he claimed that a majority of Catholics in Manitoba are privately opposed to seperate schools, amongst them being, acfriend of our schools-Rev. Father Mcthe root of the difficulty entertained is needless. We regret we have no space Never in the history of the church respecting the position and power of St. to give a longer report of these important

THE COMING EVENT.

Consecration of Our New Archbishop or the Feast of St. Joseph.

As we announced last week the great event which the whole Catholic com- steps should be taken to repudiate him. munity for many months have been waiting and longing for, namely, the Attorney-General had given a most unconsecration of a successor to our late satisfactory answer to the question asked lamented and beloved Archbishop, has him on the floor of the House by Mr. been fixed for Tuesday, the 19th inst. been fixed for Tuesday, the 19th inst.; and all classes of our people are busily Local Government. As a result of hurengaged in preparations for the occasion. ried conferences and consultations, it We are not able, in this issue, to give definite information as to what prelates of the church will be present, but next week we hope to be in a position to do so, and also to give in detail all the arrangements that have been made. We can say, however, that the laity intend to take the fullest advantago they can of whatever opportunities they may have of showing the unbounded love and veneration they entertain for the new Archbishop, and from what we know of the steps that are being taken in this direction, we believe that the day which will see the elevation of the Very Rev. Father Langevin to the dig-presentative of the Catholics. The nity of Archbishop of St. Bonitace will speaker said that it was not the first time be made the occasion of a demonstration of popular enthusiasm and gratitude authority. This was his latest and worst such as has rarely been seen on a like occurrence in any part of the world. So far as we can judge, it is the intention of the whole community to join as one man in expressing the deep affection they have for the person of the new Archbishop; their devotion to the sacred office he is to fill, and their gratitude to Almighty God who has given them such a beloved, learned and wise pastor. We will enlarge no more on the matter this week, except to say that energetic committees have been appointed by the various Catholic organizations of the city to prepare addresses and make all other necessary arrangements, and that, dian of the Child Jesus and His Imma- as we have said, we trust next week to give our readers a definite statement of the question at issue, a vote was taken. the time and order of the services, the names of the distinguished clergy who will take part, and all other information.

## LET JUSTICE BE DONE.

The Northwest Baptist Gives the Loca Government Some Sound Advice.

It is with much pleasure that we have read the following article in a recent issue of the Northwest Baptist, which is the official organ of the Baptists in this Province and the Northwest. We believe the writer voices the sentiments of of Jesus Christ; drive far from us, most a large and growing section of our Protestant fellow-citizens, and at any rate the article shows that there is at least one large section of the community out-side the Catholic body who have grasped the issues involved in the present plans of the school case, and have the manliness to take a determined stand in the interests of right and justice. We feel sure all our readers will appreciate, as we do, the sentiments which have prompted the Northwest Baptist to lay before the public this honest and clear statement of the case, and to insist on the Local Government doing its duty": "The position of the Northwest Baptist

an adamant basis of righteousness and ungain-sayable principle that it can turn its teeth to the storms until they blow their cheeks empty. When rights, or garding the efforts now being made to supposed rights, of a legal sort have been corded; that a voluminous theology secularize all public schools in England, peaceably enjoyed for a term of years, sufficient generally in civic affairs to should have grouped itself around says: "In my opinion, which I have quiet titles and give undisturable poshim; and that he should have endeavored to recently set forth in the session, it is impossible to allay feeling and heal wounds, when such rights are confiscated, by a pretence at reverting to fundamental principles. Had the clean, straight thing been done in 1890. eliminating from our public school system every vestige of so called religious instruction the unnecessary pretence of which has confirmed Roman Catholics in the opinion that it was not common schools we were after but Protestant they realize that position, and the more the people. Of course Mr. Sifton thinks schools, no doubt our legislation would have outridden the storm although it is to be doubted that there would have been anything like the storm that has been experienced, during the last three years. But now where are we? Politics thoughts about him. For who, in fact reflecting public, however, will have no friend of Canada or Manitoba who says. aside, what should be done? He is no Oh, it is not our funeral; let the Dom offices he filled, and the privileges he which of these two great statesmen of inion Government settle it.' In all soberness we ask, can politics ever settle Virgin spouse of the Virgin Mother of as a guide in this most important courts nor capinets are the right place to adjudge this matter. The Privy Couneil, without determining what rights of the Roman Catholics have been invaded, clearly indicates that there is a case for intervention on the part of the Dominion. Let Manitoba recognize this decision. We are a part of the Empire. We cannot antagonize Great Britain or even the Dominion, when the Dominion's authority in such a matter is es tablished by the highest court in Great Britain. There ought to be a readiness case by the Governor-General-in-Council on the part of Manitoba-we mean the was commenced at Ottawa on Monday, Provincial Government-to be a party and is still in progress. Mr. J. S. Ewart, in discovering where our legislation has wronged our Roman Catholic fellowcitizens, and upon discovering, willingly and Mr. Dalton McCarthy for the Local make every endeavor to do them jus-

## MASS MEETING OF ROMAN CATHOLICS.

John O'Donohue Again Repudiated...He is Not a Representative of the Catholic Laity.

Sand Baden (with two-thirds of the population Catholic) than in any other countries in the world, far greater in France than in England, greater in Belgium

Never in the history of the church respecting the position and power of St. Joseph more Joseph in Heaven, as also respecting to give a longer report of these important to give a longer report of the specific to give a lon

one and all who were aware of this that although there was a possibility he was bent on private business of his own, still there was a dangerous probability that ne was going to pose as the representa-tive of the Catholic feeling here, and that, therefore, it would be well that The feeling was strengthened later on in the day when it became known that the hue went to Ottawa on behalf of the was eventually decided to call a meeting for that evening of as many Catholics as could be got together on so short a notice, and the result was that a very large gathering assembled at St. Mary's schoolroom at 8 o'clock. The meeting organised by the appointment of Mr. D. Smith as chairman and Mr. O'Connell Powell as secretary, after which

Mr. M. Carroll said that, as chairman of the Catholic School Board, he had been instrumental in calling the meeting. He said all had heard of the departure of their "friend" John O'Donohue for Ottawa, for the alleged purpose of appearing before the Governor-General-in-Council in the hearing of the Manitoba school case, on behalf of the Local Government, and posing as a re-Mr. O'Donohue had posed in such a

position before the public, and without move, and it was now time that every Catholic of Manitoba would rise up, and with open voice repudiate Mr. O'Donohue as their representative. Mr. N. Bawlf followed next, and re-

iterated the sentiments of Mr. Carroll. Mr. J. J. Golden expressed himself as strictly in accord with the views of the previous speakers, and

Dr. Barrett emphasized what had been said.

Among the others who addressed the meeting were Messrs. Marrin, Royal. Costigan, Cass and Powell.

The secretary was then instructed to draft a resolution repudiating the representation by John O'Donohue, which he

After several amendments had been made to the resolution as drawn up, and many having addressed the meeting on RESOLUTIONS.

A resolution was then put, unanimously carried, and directed by the meeting to be wired at once to Mr. John S. Ewart, Ottawa. The resolution as carried and sent Mr. Ewart is as follows: We Catholics of Winnipeg, in mass meeting assembled, resolve herewith:

Having heard of the departure of one John O'Donohue, a trustee of the Protestant School Board of Winnipeg, for Ottawa, for the alleged purpose of testifyng before the Governor-General-in-Council on the Manitoba school case, in behalf of the Government of Manitoba, and posing as a representative Catholic of this province And inasmuch as said, the Govern-

ment of Manitoba failed to contradict the aforesaid allegation, when questioned thereon, on the floor of the house by a member of the same; That said John O'Donohue is not, or

never has been a representative of the Catholics of Manitoba, on the school question, or upon any other question: And that we strongly and emphati-cally repudiate any and all such enforced representation by him. (Carried

unanimously).
Following the above, considerable discussion ensued.

It was then moved by Mr. J. J. Golden, seconded by Mr. M. Carroll: That we, the Catholics of Manitoba, on the school question, all along, has on the question of having our own schools; and that there is no better proof of the same than that while paying our taxes to and supporting the socalled public schools, we have at the same time maintained our own schools for the education of our children. (Car-

ied unanimously.) Moved by M. Carroll, seconded by J. A. Richard:

Inasmuch as the Honorable Attorney-General stated on the floor of the house: "He had always maintained that a large number of Roman Catholics did not agree with the proceedings in their name, and that a large number of them preferred the public school system to any other system.

(After having read certain statistics purporting to show the illiteracy pre-vailing in Catholic countries.)

"It would be a shame and a disgrace to perpetuate such a state of affairs in this country. Taxes had been paid by Catholics for the support of schools under the old system, but those controlling the school had failed in their duty."

"He did not wish to say anything derogatory of any religious creed but if the Roman Catholic clergy were allowed to override the people of this country the same undesirable conditions would prevail here as in other countries where they predomina e."

"If the present school law compelled Catholic children to attend school and swallow Protestant religion (it would then take away a natural right of the Catholics). But the law did not do this, and having this fact in view the legislation was neither unfair or ungenerous."

We the Catholics of Winnipeg assembled here in mass meeting repudiate all such assertions, and at one and the same time characterize them as maliciously false, or wilfully ignorant. Carried unanimously.

After the foregoing resolutions had been unanimously carried many present resumed discussion on the O'Donohue matter, as also on the speech of the Attorney-General. The principal speaker was Mr. J. J. Golden, who addressed the meeting at length, dealing with several of the statements made by the Hon. Mr. Sifton. He also took up the O'Donobue matter, and regretted that there should be in the community one On Thursday morning a rumor began calling himself a Catholic and who, on cording to the telegraphic summary of to circulate amongst the Catholics of his remarks, no less a personage than the city that Mr. John O'Donohue was He referred to Mr. O'Donohue's having that devoted priest and self-sacrificing that day leaving for Ottawa with the intention of giving evidence in connection and said that the motive of that action with the appeal being made to the Dominion authorities for remedial legisla. was now becoming plainly visible; he was now becoming plainly visible; he was being used as a cat's paw by enemies of the Catholics. The time would

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