

In Manitoba the right of separate schools has become the law of the land. And so lately as last May, the injustice of not extending the same fair play to the Catholic minority of New Brunswick was proclaimed by an overwhelming majority of the House of Commons at Ottawa, in these words:—"Resolved, That this House regrets that the School Act recently passed in New Brunswick, is unsatisfactory to a portion of the inhabitants of that Province, and hopes that it may be so modified during the next session of the Legislature of New Brunswick, as to remove any just grounds of discontent." In these words a majority of the representatives of the Dominion have condemned the notoriously unjust School law, now in operation in New Brunswick, and by implication, that also in force in Prince Edward's Island.

As ministers of the God of peace, we proclaim to you, our dear people, as well as to our fellow citizens of other denominations, that we look for nothing else, in this country, but that justice and fair play which settled all difficulties and allayed all ill-feeling in Ontario and Quebec. We ask no more than this tardy act of justice in the Maritime Provinces, and we shall not be satisfied with less.

To those who may take exception to our interference on this subject at the present moment and blame us for addressing you as we now do, our answer is, in the words of the Holy Father, "they ask us, by our silence, to disobey the command of the Divine Author of the Church, and be false to the charge She has received from God, of guiding all men to salvation."

The grace of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, be with you.—
AMEN.

- † THOMAS LOUIS, *Archbishop of Halifax.*
- † COLIN FRANCIS, *Bishop of Arichat.*
- † JOHN, *Bishop of St. John.*
- † PETER, *Bishop of Charlottetown.*
- † JAMES, *Bishop of Chatham.*
- † JOHN, *Bishop of Titopolis.*

Given at St. Mary's,
Halifax, 25th Nov., 1873.