

that there is the greatest possible distinction between the two cases, and nobody knows that better than the hon. First Minister. What did the hon. gentleman do with the Orange Bill? He admitted that it was within the competence of the Local Legislature. Of course it was. It came before him, he had the power, with the stroke of his pen, to make that law, which was not law before. Instead of doing that he undertook in advance to advise the Lieut.-Governor what to do, in case the Bill again received the sanction of the Local Legislature. The hon. gentleman said this:

"If these Acts should again be passed the Lieutenant-Governor should consider himself bound to deal with them at once and not ask Your Excellency to interfere in matters of provincial concern, and solely and entirely within the jurisdiction and competence of the Legislature."

Now, why did the hon. gentleman who was not prepared to advise the Governor-General to interfere in a matter within the competence of the Local Legislature, who was not prepared to advise the Governor-General to allow that Bill to come into operation although it was within the competence of the Local Legislature and should have received the assent of the Lieut.-Governor, why should he now, in a matter he must admit is within the competence of the Local Legislature, instruct his Minister of Justice to advise the Governor-General to disallow the Bill, a Bill as much within the competence of the Local Legislature as the other. In the one case it suited political purposes to throw the responsibility of the legislation on to the Local Government. It suited his purpose to hamper, annoy and embarrass, if possible, the Local Legislature. It suits his purpose now to conciliate a strong personal and political friend, and he is conciliated accordingly. How anxious the hon. gentleman was in the one case to sustain the Local Legislature, how anxious is he now to embarrass, hamper and annoy the Local Government. What a sudden and serious change in the views of the hon. gentleman. I am, Sir, quite satisfied that the change in the hon. gentleman's opinion as to the right of the Dominion Government to interfere has not been brought about by a due regard for the public interest. Now, Sir, there is another Bill to which I wish to refer, and in dealing with that Bill, the hon. gentleman has put upon record, in the plainest possible manner, his views of how far the Dominion Government is justified in interfering with local legislation. I refer to the New Brunswick School Bill. Now, in my judgment, if there ever was a Bill within the competence of the Local Legislature that the Dominion Government would be justified in disallowing, that measure was one of them—I speak for myself only. It was a Bill that seriously