By advertising in the "True Witness' you materially assist a thorough Catholic organ, and you secure patronage for yourself in your line of business.

VOL. XLV., NO. 7.

MONTREAL. WEDNESDAY. SEPTEMBER 4. 1895. PRICE FIVE CENTS.

ON THE MANITOBA SCHOOL QUESTION.

THE SOLICITOR-GENERAL GIVES A MASTERLY EXPOSITION OF THIS IMPORTANT SUBJECT -" THE PEOPLE OF CANADA WOULD UP-HOLD A GOVERNMENT THAT STOOD OUT FOR GOOD FAITH AND THE RESPECT OF THE PLEDGED WORD OF THE DOMINION."

We take, from the North Sydney Herald report, that part of the speech of Hon. J. J. Curran, recently delivered at Sydney, Cape Breton, which has reference to the Manitoba school question. It is difficult to combat the position taken by him on constitutional lines, in view of his able exposition of the matter from the date of the resolution of the Hon. Edward Blake to the present time. We trust that at the next session of par-liament, should the Manitoba Government persist in its refusal to do justice. that both leaders of the great parties in Cauada will join hands for remedial legislation, and thus remove the question from the political arena.

The honorable gentleman spoke as

The Manitoba school question, of which so much had been said, ought to be one of great simplicity. It was not, in so far as the Parliament of Canada is concerned, a religious question in any sense. It was not a question as to whether one system of schools was preferable to another. Those who were called upon to vote in this respect were not supposed in any way to deal with the merits or demerits of the separate school system. The whole question was whether the rights of the minority in Manitoba under the Manitoba act were to be respected and held inviolate. To talk of coercion of the majority or the desire to impose upon the province a system of schools repugnant to any section of the community was rank rubbish. The 22nd section of the Manitoba act gave certain powers regarding education to the Legislature of the province and imposed certain restrictions upon that Legislature. It was simply a question to-day whether the constitution was to be upheld, and whether the privileges secured to the minority, privileges most likely at that time to be secured to a Protestant minority, as that body of hristians was actually in the minority in the province at the time the act was assed, were to be maintained; or if hose matters that had been declared by he highest tribunal in the Empire a winds. The constitutional question could not be evaded, it could not be lightly treated. it could not be ignored with impunity; because the Catholic minority of Manitoba stood nearly in the same position as the Protestant minority in the province of Quebec, and as the one was treated so there was a possibility of the other being dealt with When the Manitoba school act of 1890 was enacted the Catholics, who had then become the minority, protested against it. The schools which they had enjoyed or nineteen years had been abolished, their school-houses had been handed over to the public schools, their taxes were applied to the public school system, and every privilege that they had enjoyed from a short time after the province was acorporated with the Dominion had been swept away. Under these circumstances the case of Barret vs. the Queen was placed before the court for adjudication, as to whether any law or practice in force at the time of the passing of the Manitoba act of 1870 had been infringed upon. The Supreme court of Canada had unanimously held that this school RW was ultra vires. The Privy council of her Majesty reversed that decision.

Mr. Laurier says that the policy of the Dominion Government in dealing with his question was cowardly and shifting. A man with his so-called policy requires to have a great deal of audacity to accuse any one of cowardice, but if cowardice it be, then

30 MAN IN THIS COUNTRY IS MORE RE-

SPONSIBLE for the action of the Governm nt all through this matter than Mr. Laurier himself. He impugns not only the Govemment of Canada, but he casts the harge of cowardice upon the greatest leader the Liberal party has had in Canada, the Hon. Edward Blake, and it would not take long to prove that assertion. Whilst the case of Barret vs. the was pending, Mr. Blake, foreseeing that if the case went against the preions of the minority that there would still remain the appeal to his collency-in-council with reference to divileges arquired under the sub-section section 22 of the Manitoba act relathe to rights acquired since the union with Canada, proposed the following

That it is expedient to provide means reby, on solemn occasions touching de exercise of the power of disallowance, of the appellate power as to educanal legislation, important questions liew or fact may be referred by the ecutive to a high judicial tribunal for ing and consideration, in such mode it the authorities and parties inter-ed may be represented and that a oned opinion may be ebtained for information of the executive.

remarkable speeches ever delivered in the House of Commons He pointed out that he referred not only to questions of "ultra vires" legislation, but to the question of appeal to the Governor-General in-council by a minority claiming to have a grievance. Let us take his own words so that there may be no misunderstanding:---

"My opinion is, that whenever, in opposition to the continued view of a provincial executive and legislature, it is contemplated by the Dominion executive to disallow a provincial act because it is ultra vires, there ought to be a reference; and also that there ought to be a reference in certain cases where the condition of public opinion renders expedient a solution of legal problems, dissociated from those elements of passion and expediency which are, rightly or wrongly, too often attributed to the action of political bodies. And again, I for my part would recommend such a reference in all cases of educational appeal cases which necessarily evoke the feelings to which I have alluded, and to one of which, I am frank to say, my present motion is mainly due."

And having thus defined the extent of his object in covering both the "ultra; vires" and the appeal to his Excellencyin-council on the grounds of a grievance from an undue interference by a province with rights acquired under the second branch of the educational clauses of the act, Mr. Blake was particularly careful to indicate what were his reasons for adopting such a course. He felt the necessity of avoiding political action in a country like ours, with a population made up of such different elements, elements divided by race and by creed and by language. Can there be any doubt of his intention when we consider the following words used by him in that speech. He said :-

"But sir, besides the positive gain of obtaining the best guidance, there are other, and in my opinion, not unimportant gains besides. Ours is a popular government; and when burning questions arise inflaming the public mind, when agitation is rife as to the political action of the executive or the legislature -which action is to be based on legal questions, obviously beyond the grasp of the people at large—when the people are on such questions divided by cries of creed and race; then I maintain that a great public good is attainable by the submission of such legal questions to legal tribunals with all the customary securities for a sound judgment; and whose decisions, passionless and dignified, accepted by each of us as binding in our own affairs, involving fortune, freedom, honor, life itself, are most likely to be accepted by us all in questions of public concern."

If we understand English language parliamentary compact, were to be surely there was no other meaning to be treated as waste paper and cast to the given to those words of the Hon. Edward winds. The constitutional question Blake than that if he had to decide upon a course of action, seeing the condition of the country, he would decide

SUCH A BURNING QUESTION

in the light of the interpretation given to our constitution by the highest tri-bunal in the land. And, further, he warned the party in power that he was acting in their interest in bringing forward such a resolution in these solemn words:

"I have an absolute confidence that, if my proposal should be declined, the first persons to regret that decision will be hon, gentlemen opposite. My opinion is, that this is a proposal eminently helpful to the executive of the country at this time; but it is eminently helpful to them, because it is eminently helpful to the good government of this country, and it is in this spirit that I move the amendment which I now submit to the

judgment of the House." That resolution was adopted by the House of Commons of Canada without a dissenting voice. Mr. Laurier was present; he accepted that resolution with all its consequences, and never uttered a word of protest; he acquiesced in it, and in acquiescing in it he acquiesced in the line that had been adopted by the Liberal-Conservative party of Canada. Mr. Dalton McCarthy acquiesced in that resolution and with every member of the House stood bound by it. But they were told that in accepting that resolution Sir John A. Macdonald had made several reservations. That he had insisted that in every instance, whether the Government of the day acted upon or rejected the opinion of Her Majesty's Privy Council, they must still bear the responsibility of their action. That was true. No government can divest itself of its responsibility for the administration of every law upon the statute book. Speaking of that responsibility, and of the care with which the resolution of Mr. Blake had been prepared, Sir John A. Macdonald had used these words to define his exact position:

"Such a decision is only for the information of the Government. The executive is not relieved from any responsibility because of any answer being given by the tribunal. If the executive were to be relieved of any such responsibility, should consider that a fatal blot in the proposition of my hon. friend. I believe in responsible government. I believe in he responsibility of the executive. But he answer of the tribunal will be simply for the information of the Government. The Government may dissent from that decision, and it may be their duty to do so if they differ from the conclusion to which the court has come."

The responsibility of the Government import of this resolution. Mr. remains and they may be called upon to made one of the most able and discent from the decision of the most

august tribunal "if they differ from the conclusion to which the court has come."

Who differs, from the decision of the Privy Council in this instance? The Government does not differ, Mr. Laurier does not differ, Mr. Dalton McCarthy does not differ. The Privy Council has declared that it is impossible to come to any other conclusion than that the min-ority in Manitoba have had their rights interfered with. What then could the Government do but call upon the Legislature of Manitoba to remedy the grievance? Mr. Laurier may go back upon his vote upon the Blake resolution. Mr. Dalton McCarthy may say "this is a wrong and the statute has provided a remedy, but do not apply the remedy,' but the people of Canada who love justice will not stand any such doctrine. The position of Mr. Blake

HAS BEEN DEMONSTRATED. the position of Sir John A. Macdonald has been proved. What was the position of Sir John Thompson upon this question. At the very formation of his Government he went with his colleagues to Toronto, and at a public meeting there, in the presence of thousands in one of the public halls, he made a statement of the policy of his party. Before resuming his seat he was called upon by many voices to speak on the Manitoba school question. He declared that his Government would stand by the constitution, and amidst the ringing cheers of the multitude he declared that the appeal of the minority in Manitoba would be referred to the highest tribunal; and if the decision went against the majority that majority would have to submit, and if it went against the minority they would have to abide by the consequences. (Cheers.) Later on when Messrs. Laurier, McCarthy and Tarte joined in a vote of non-confidence in Sir John Tohmpson's Government, because the appeal of the minority to the Governor-General-in-Council had been referred for adjudication as to the right of his Excellency-in-Council to deal with the matter after the decision in the Barret case, Sir John Thompson was taunted by the member for L'Islet with being afraid to announce the volicy of the Government in advance of the decision of the Privy Council. Sir John Thompson said:

"When the questions which surround her case have been decided by the courts. there will be no suspicion on the part of that province that either from religious or political antipathy or sympathy her legislation has been interfered with or her rights invaded; and when the hon. member for L'Islet challenges me, as he surely had no right to challenge me, to state in advance what the policy of the Government would be if such and so should happen, I tell him that the answer I can give now and the answer I shall be able to give him, if that event and successful scale. should happen, would be this, that the province of Manitoba is a constitutional province, and that whether it be in the hands of legislators opposed to us or in the hands of legislators in sympathy with us, we have every reason to believe and to rest assured that she will obey the dictates of the highest tribunal in this Empire as to what constitution is, regardless of consequences, regardless even of the displeasure of the majority if the decision should be against 'the majority; and that, so far as the disposal of this appeal is concerned at any rate, the minority must bow to that decision and the federal executive will advise his Excellency accordingly."

Was that language plain enough? Was there any cowardice in that declaration? The present Government is the successor of Sir John Thompson's ad ministration. They have inherited his traditions, they have declared for his views upon this momentous question. They are bound to stand or fall by the constitution as expounded by the highest court in the Empire, and above all they are bound to respect Parliamentary compacts. The Privy council, in the reasons they were bound by the statutes to give for the opinion they expressed, declared that the 22nd section of the Manitoba act was "in truth a parliamentary compact." The people of Canada would uphold a Government that stood out for good faith, and the respect of the pledged word of the Dominion. (Cheers.) Mr. Laurier seems to suggest that, this matter being one of fact, as he says, there should be an investigation-some sort of a commission. The Privy council had decided the question of fact when it held that the minority had a grievance. If Mr. Laurier was not satisfied with the decision of the Privy council, he had the statement of Mr. Martin, his own colleague and supporter, the author of this law, who had declared it tyrannical. If that did not satisfy him let him refer to the words of Mr. Hugh J. Macdonald, son of the late chieftain, the former member for Winnipeg, who stated in Parliament:-"Whatever we may think of the advisability of maintaining the system of separate schools or establishing a system of neutral schools in Manitoba, the manner in which the separate school system in Manitoba was abolished

WAS BRUTAL, BARBAROUS AND BUTCHERY.' The question of a grievance has been settled beyond dispute, and to suppose that Mr. Greenway, who despises and repudiates the judgment of the Privy council, would respect the finding of a royal commission, is simply preposterous. The Liberal-Conservative party are not responsible for this wretched question being thrust into the political arena. For twenty years they governed Manitoba, respecting the rights of all classes of her Majesty's subjects. It was the Liberal party that trampled upon the rights of the minority, and when or

Greenway, to undo the wrong he has perpetrated? (Cheers.) If Mr. Laurier were a patriotic man he would join hands with the Liberal-Conservatives in maintaining and enforcing the constitution. The Government have called upon the Legislature of Manitoba to do justice in the premises. Every good citizen hopes they may settle the question on the basis of justice within their own Legislature, but should they fail to do so the Parliament of Canada will not shirk its duty, and remedial legislation will be carried by an overwhelming majority. Their honored guest had stated that in Nova Scotia the day of bigotry had passed and that his province was a land of fair play to all. He could tell them that in the Province of Quebec no public man would dare to propose a law that would inflict an injury on or infringe upon a right or privilege of the Protestant minority without being driven into obscurity. (Cheers.) Let them read the admirable speech of Hon. Mr. Baker, M.P., on this subject and see what a Protestant representative had to say as to telerance in the Province of Quebec. No party. Liberal or Conservative, in that province. would lay a sacrilegious hand upon the constitutional privilege of the minority in the slightest degree, and he felt that the fair play that held good there was in favor with the great majority of the Canadian people. They wished to prosper at home, but they desired to be respected abroad as well, as people who respected covenants and would not tolerate the existence of grievances in any section of the country, no matter how weak the minority might be. Our people wished to preserve and hand to their children the proud name that they inherited from their ancestors, and to make of Canada not only a great country and a prosperous one, but a land of peace and happiness, the home of a brave and generous people who loved justice and were determined to see it done.

The hon, gentleman resumrd his seat amidst loud cheers.

A GREAT SCHEME.

Montreal to be Adorned With a New Observatory.

The Montreal Daily Witness is responsible for the following interesting piece of information:

The Jesuit Fathers of Montreal have always been noted for their progressive and enterprising spirit, and any scheme undertaken by them has always been successfully carried out. Their fine church, with its music, and their college as recently enlarged and fitted up with all modern improvements, are instances of their efforts in doing things on a large

The Fathers are now credited with having decided upon carrying another grand and important scheme, in the shape of an observatory to be constructed over St. Mary's College. The rumor comes from a trustworthy source, and the project is said to have reached such a point that negotiations are already going on with architects with a view to carry out the scheme at as early a date as possible.

It is the intention to make the proposed observatory second to none on the continent. Foundations are to be placed at a great depth in order to avoid all possible vibrations, and the observatory proper will rise to a considerable height in the centre of the building, at the place now occupied by the dome, and will be by far the highest point in and around the city. The structure will combine elegance and solidity, and all the most recent and most improved scientific apparatus will be used in the different stories and departments for meteorological, astronomical and other observations.

Special accommodation will also be provided for visitors, who can obtain from that elevated point a splendid view of the surrounding country.

The work done in the observatory will. it is said, be of a kind to call for grants from both federal and provincial govern-

With the large number of scientific men at their disposal, the Jesuits are in position to successfully carry out this country at large must benefit in a scientific point of view.

ST. PATRICK'S NEW ORGAN.

On October 1st and 2nd will take place

the inauguration of the new organ of St. Patrick's Church. Mr. Frederick Archer, organist of St. James' Catholic Church, Chicago, one of the greatest artists of America, has been engaged for the occasion, and will render some of the most beautiful and classical compositions for the organ. The principal choirs of the city will assist St. Patrick's choir in the rendition of very fine choruses by Gounod, Dubois and other great masters. These sacred concerts will, no doubt, be one of the musical events of the season. His Grace Archbishop Fabre of Montreal has kindly consented to take the concerts under his patronage, and will attend them if the seances of the Diocesan Council, which will be going on then, will allow him the time to do so. A charge of 25 cts and 50 cts will be made, the proceeds to be devoted towards the organ fund. The impression that the organ is the old one only repaired is an error. It is a new organ; only a few pipes of the old one that were considered good enough have been used and a part of the case. Casavant Preres pronounce it as being the Liberal party that trampled upon the rights of the minority, and when or one of the finest that ever came out of Isn't where has Mn Laurier appealed to his friend and adherent and co-Liberal, Mr. other organists who examined it, are out.

highly delighted with its sound and mechanism. The mechanism is the most modern and improved known so

The tickets are for sale at many stores in the city and St. Patrick's Presbytery, and at Prof. Fowler's, No. 4 Phillip's

WEDDING BELLS.

Davin-Mullins.

On Tuesday, August the 20th, in St Ann's Church, Montreal, took place the interesting ceremony and happy event of the union, in the bonds of holy matrimony, of Mr. James Davin, of this city, to Miss Nora Mullins. Mr. Davin is a son of our esteemed fellow-citizen Mr. Michael Davin of Montreal, and the bride is the beloved daughter of Mr. William Mullins, master earter, one of our most popular citizens. After the service, which was witnessed by a large number of friends, a bridal breakfast was served at the residence of the bride's father, ? St. Etienne street.

After the breakfast, amidst the congratulations of friends, acquaintances and well-wishers, the happy young couple left by the C.P.R. for Boston, New York and Philadelphia. The presents were numerous, beautiful and costly. Mr. Davin is employed in the Circuit Court with His Honor Judge Purcell. He is a member of the Y. I. L. & B. Association and one of the most popular young men of the parish. Miss Davin, of The True Witness staff, is a sister of the bridegroom. We extend to the young couple our hearty congratulations and best wishes for a prosperous bridal tour and a happy and unclouded life hereafter.

SIGNOR CRISPI.

A writer for whom we have little re gard as a rule, the novelist whose wellknown nom-de-plume is "Ouida," has lately devoted her pen to a series of attacks on Signor Crispi which really deserve attention. In the Contemporary Review "Ouida" writes as follows:

Crispi has remained what he was all through his early manhood, a conspirator. There is but this difference : in his carlier manhood he conspired with the people; he now conspires against them. He was, in his prime, a regicide; he is. in his old age, a liberticide. He has all the apprehensiveness, the exaggerated terrors, the intriguing imagination, of the conspirator. He sees plots and counter-plots in all directions. He believes that a nation can be governed from the central office of the secret police. He monomaniac: he sees France and Russia and Abyssinia as in the club of the Collectivists and Socialists. He has lest, if an I an exile, as when he was a mere deputy, a mere adventurous lawyer, he upheld the liberty of the Press as the corner-stone of the arch of freedom. As a dictator, he considers any censure by the Press of his own deeds as an infamy to imprisonment. The Government of Francesco Crispi has sent the century back sixty years. By him and through him all the old instruments of torture speech, public and private; literary clubs and co-operative societies are arbitrarily dissolved; packed juries condemn, venal judges sentence; military courts imprison civilians; civil courts judge honcidal officers; time-serving prefects | might order illuminations with the ratedeny the franchise to all independent thinkers and manipulate the electoral of Rome, but the Italian nation was not lists to suit their governments; lads as | so lost to faith as not to see the injustice. they come singing through the country lanes are arrested if the song is of lib- not. No man would be allowed to speak erty; little children writing in chalk on ! the town wall are sent to prison for fortycheme from which the city and the five days. There is a reign of terror from not the less. The position of the Pope Alps to Etna, and the police, armed to the teeth, swarm everywhere, and the prisons are crowded with innocent citi-

As "Cuida" resides in Italy she is justice may be soon blotted out of the clearly entitled to be heard.

A NEW LAW FIRM.

The title of "Devlin & Devlin," once to well known among the law firms of this city, has been revived by the admission to the bar of E. B. Devlin. nephew of the late Barney Devlin, and brother of Rev. Father Devlin, who was formerly a lawyer of this city, and Chas. R. Devlin, M.P. for Ottawa County. Mr. Devlin has leased the offices of the late Joseph Duhamel, Q.C., of the firm of Duhamel, Marceau & Merrill, in the chambers of the Royal Insurance Building, 1709 Notre Dame Street; and openhis professional career under promising auspices.

Customer: So you sell these watches at five dollars each. It must cost that much to make them. Jeweller: It does Customer: Then how do you make your money? Jeweller: Reparing 'em.

Wiggs quoting: "There's nothing like leather," you know, old boy. Waggs: Ian't there, though? You never saw; any of he pie-crusts that our new cook turns

MONSIGNOR O'BRYEN

ON THE TEMPORAL POWER OF THE POPE.

THE POSSESSION OF ROME ESSENTIAL TO THE POPE'S FREEDOM OF ACTION—THE SPOLI-ATION LAWS A STRIKING EXAMPLE OF THE INJUSTICE OF THE ITALIAN GOVEKNMENT -PLEDGES OF PROTECTION BROKEN.

St. Patrick's church was filled to over-

flowing at High Mass on Sunday last. A. great many of the people had come to hear Mgr. O'Bryen, who, it was known, would occupy the pulpit. The distin-guished Roman prelate chose for his theme the temporal power of the Pope. He began by going over the foundation of the Holy See and the formation of the Pope's temporal domain. The work was one which took hundreds of years, he said, but the ways of God are slow. It was Constantine who, after his conversion, realized that there should not be two kings in Rome, that the representative of Christ should hold individual sway over the Eternal City. It was for this reason, in order that there might be no conflict between the Pope and the Emperor, that he founded the new city of Constantinople. But the world was not yet ready for the temporal sovereignty of the Pope. It was only after all western Europe had been won to Christianity that the kings of these countries recognized the necessity of having one who would be the king of kings, to interpret the divine law and to lead them in the path of right and justice. It was then that God raised up Charlemagne to endow the Pope with a temporal domain which would make him independent of the petty princes around him. From that day the Popes began to exert effectively the great power which enabled them to check those who governed badly, as well as to teach the respect of authority to the nation. From that day, for a thousand years, no one ever questioned the legitimacy of the title of the Pope to his temporal domain. There were kings who made war against the Pope and who invaded his domain to punish him, as nations do when they are at war, but neither the sovereigns of Germany, nor those of France and England, ever questioned the title of the Holy See to the territory over which it ruled. It remained for a certain sect of Italians of the present time to detach has something of the mattoide, of the themselves from all the traditions of the past, to make themselves independent of everywhere, behind the tribes of Ethiopia all the laws of God and man, in order to steal the states of the Church. They succeeded: but thirty years after the act he ever possessed, the power and patience its iniquity was even more apparent than of clear unbiassed thought. It is doubt-ful if he ever did possess them. Who ever has seen him speak when irritated. | perfect freedom of action of the Pope in seen his inflamed countenance, his spiritual matters. There are those who furious eyes, his gnashing teeth, has seen say that there is no material conflict a man in whom the serene equilibrium between the Pope and the new kings of of the brain is violently and frequently Italy, that there has been no interference disturbed. When he was an insurgent in the spiritual sphere of action of the Pope, that he is perfectly free. He, the speaker, had heard that for over twentyfive years; but living in Rome, as he did, he knew that all the pledges of Minister, or, more properly speaking, a protection had been broken, and that the power for good of the Pope has been seriously hampered. The spoliation laws be instantly punished by exile, fine, or were a striking example of the injustice of the Italian government. The property of the religious orders and their money, which was used to support the mission, had been confiscated, and the are in use. Spies fill the cities, detectives nuns and monks were left to live or scour the fields; informers listen to all starve on an allowance of 10 cents a

These crimes must arouse the conscience of every individual Catholic throughout the world. The day of justce will come. The Italian government payers' money to celebrate the capture as he had within the jurisdiction of the Italian tribunal. But the Italians think. would appeal especially to the Irish people, who have themselves so long been deprived of their rights. Let them all pray that the sight or this great inworld.

A GRACIOUS COMPLIMENT.

The editor of the Montreal True Wirness is doing much to develop and strengthen the cause of Catholic literature in Canada. Simple justice demands that this should be said. A young man, himself a poet of no inconsiderable merit, for months he has been patiently seeking out and calling attention to the merits of his brethren in the fold of Canadian song, sometimes we feel, assured, without much of sympathy or encouragement. Such editors go far toward building the literature of their native land, and certainly they do much to sweeten and freshen the life about them. It augurs favorably for the future of Canadian Catholic letters that the editor of one of that country's most influential Catholic journals devotes one of his editorial columns each week to the literary aspirations of his people. Dr. Foran is the Walter Lecky of Canada.—The Poor rouls' . dro ale.

Haverly: Does bicycle-riding give peo ple plenty of exercise? Austende should say it did. You ought to see he distribute dodging us on the Boulevard