

"That is all right", said he to me. "I shall take the matter up before the Senate (or Legislative Council), and it will not be my fault if it is rejected." I called his attention to the fact that the measure should first be presented to the House (or Legislative Assembly). He himself went and saw Mr. Aimé Dorion, the leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Assembly, and brought him to me. I told this gentleman, who promised he would help me, what I had just said to Mr. Letellier.

"The bill was discussed and amended in the Legislative Assembly on its first reading; discussed again on the second reading but was not amended, and passed on the third reading without discussion.

"I was present in the Legislative Council when the bill was presented there. It was discussed on its first and second reading without, however, being amended.

"Mr. Letellier de Saint-Just spoke for one hour and a-half. He directed attention, in the first place, to the fact that the Diocese of Ottawa occupied a peculiar situation, formed partly by French-Canadians and partly by Irish people for whom it was necessary to furnish priests. But the population is so mixed, said he, that priests unable to speak the two languages would be incompetent to teach religion in most of the parishes. As a result of this, it was necessary to have an institution capable of preparing priests to speak the two languages. All men belonging to the liberal professions, such as the lawyers, the doctors, etc., are in the same position as the

priests; they must understand the language of their clients and their patients.

"The members of the Council who were opposed to the bill maintained that the matter had been settled by the government and that no more than one university for each religious denomination would be granted for each province. Mr. Letellier replied to this that the principle was well enough as a general one, but that there was no rule without exceptions; that the Capital of a country had a right to a university; that a Capital like Ottawa especially, where French and English were both official languages, should possess an institution in which both might be studied and mastered. It was necessary for the people's representatives, evidently, in order that they might understand one another; it was necessary also for the translators of the laws and other official documents. Now, this necessitated a profound knowledge of the two languages which could not regularly be acquired outside of a university: therefore, the University of Ottawa, where these advantages could be found, was a necessity.

"Who, among us", added he, "that, coming to Ottawa, would not be pleased to see his children study here before him, and witness their success both in English and in French? For my part, I know what it has cost me to learn English, not having had the advantage of learning it practically in college at the same time as my mother-tongue. How many colleges in Canada are there where the two languages are taught practically?