OFFICIAL REPORT.

OFFER MADE BY THE DOMINION GOVERNMENT.

THE WINNIPEG SCHOOL CONFERENCE AND ITS RESULTS; A FAIR PROPOSITION; MANITOBA REJECTS IT; A REFUSAL TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE PRINCIPLE OF SEPA-RATE SCHOOLS.

The following is the proposition submitted by the Dominion Government to Manitoba, through the medium of Sir Donald Smith, and Hon. Messrs. Dickey and Desjardins, the Commissioners appointed to the Winnipeg Conference :-

"Legislation shall be passed at the present session of the Manitoba Legislature to provide that, in towns and vilschool age, and in cities where there are. say, fifty of such children, the Board of Trustees shall arrange that such children shall have a school house or school room for their own use, where they may be taught by a Roman Catholic teacher; and Roman Catholic parents or guardians, say ten in number, may appeal to the Department of Education from any decision or neglect of the Board, in respect of its duties under this clause, and the Board shall observe and carry out all decisions and directions of the Department on any such appeal.

Provision shall be made by this legislation that schools wherein the majority of children are Catholics, should be exempted from the requirements of the regulations as to religious exercises.

TEXT BOOK PROVISION.

"That text books be permitted in Catholic schools such as will not offend the religious views of the minority, and which, from an educational standpoint, shall be satisfactory to the advisory

Catholics to have representation on the advisory board; Catholics to have representation on the board of examiners appointed to examine teachers for certilicates.
"It is also claimed that Catholics;

should have assistance in the mainten-ance of a normal school for the educasion of their teachers.

The existing system of permits to to be continued for, say two years, to the respective denominations. enable them to qualify, and then to be entirely discontinued.

In all other respects the schools at force in Manitoba

"A written agreement having been arrived at, and the necessary legislation ent at such religious exercises, or teachpassed, the Remedial Bill now before ing, if the parents shall object. In such rights and privileges which might be claimed by the minority in view of the decision of the Judicial Committee of mits, instead of allotting different days the Privy Council, shall, during the duc observance of such agreement, remain the trustees to direct that the pupils in abeyance, and be not further insisted shall be separated, and placed in different upon.' Signed,

Donald A. Smith, ALPH. DESIARDINS, A. R. DICKEY.

March 28th, 1836.

MANITOBA'S ANSWER. Hon, Arthur R. Dickey, Hon, A. Desjar-

GENTLEMEN,-We have lad under consideration the memorandum handed to us on the 28th instant, containing your suggestions for settlement of the Manitoba school question, and have the honor to submit herewith our reply

We desire, first, to refer to the understanding upon which the conference was proceeded with. You will remember that we thought it necessary, before proceeding with the discussion of the question involved, to scipulate:

1st-That while the conference was proceeding, the Remedial Bill now before Parliament should be held in abeyance, and no proceedings taken thereon ference did not extend beyond Tuesday

2-That in the event of an agreement and the execution of the terms of the agreement left to the parties. These stipulations were agreed to by yourselves without hesitation, but notwithstanding such agreement, and in violation of its terms, the Remedial Bill was advanced a stage in the House of Commons on Saturday morning. While not desirous of taking any advantage of this depar ture from the conditions upon which the negotiations were opened, we deem it due to ourselves to protest against the course thus pursued by the Government, by which you were commissioned.

We regret that we are unable to accede to the terms of the propositions submitted to us. A study of its details reveals the fact that it involves much more than would appear at first sight. The objections are both general, that is to time taken by the Government. After say, as to principles involved, and special, that is to say, as to practical operation.

An amendment to the School Act, embodying the terms of the memorandum, would divide the population for educational purposes into two classes, Roman Catholic and Protestant, giving to the Roman Catholic population distinct and special privileges as against the remaining portion of the people. It would establish a system of State supported separate schools for the Roman Catholic people, and would compel their support by the school taxes and legislative school organization, text book regulaboards of examiners and normal school would be modified to bring it into accord with the separation principle, to an extent not usual even in places where regularly constituted separate schools systems obtain."

This is followed by a very lengthy explanation, in detail, which leads up to the following proposition from Mani-

THE MANITOBA PROPOSITION. "We are prepared, however, to make

founded grievance, if such exist, and we. modifications, which we believe to be free from objections upon principle, and this conference." which in our opinion, will remove any such grievances, and, at the same time, in no way affect the efficiency of the public school system, or deprive the Roman Catholic children of the privilege of participation in the same educational advantages enjoyed by the rest of the people.

alternative :-

"First-Should it be accepted as a satisfactory measure of relief to the minority, and as removing their grievances, we hereby offer to completely secularize the public school system, eliminating religious exercises, and teaching of every kind, during school hours. We desire it to be understood, in connection with this proposition, that it is made as a compromise offer, and lages where there are resident, say, not as embodying the policy which the twenty-five Roman Catholic children of Government and Legislature of the province are themselves desirous of pursuing. We are willing, however, to adopt such a measure in order to attain a settlement of the dispute.

"Second-In the alternative, we offer to repeal the present provisions of the School Act, relating to religious exercises, and to enact in substance the following .--

THE RELIGIOUS EXERCISES.

"' No religious exercises or teaching to take place in any public school, except as provided in the Act. Such exercises, or teaching, when held, to be between halfpast three and four o'clock in the afternoon.

"If authorized by resolution of the trustees, such resolution to be assented to by a majority, religious exercises and teaching to be held in any public school between 3.30 and 4 o'clock in the afternoon. Such religious exercises and teaching to be conducted by any Christian clergyman, whose charge includes any portion of the school district, or by any person satisfactory to a majority of the trustees, who may be authorized by said clergymen to act in his stead.

"The trustees to allot the period fixed for religious exercises, or teaching, for the different days of the week, to the representatives of the different religious denominations to which the pupils may belong in such a way as to proportion the time allotted as nearly as possible non-qualified teachers in Catholic schools to the number of pupils in the school of

Two or more denominations to have the privilege of uniting for the purpose of such religious exercises. If no duly which Catholics attend, to be public authorized representative of any of the schools and subject to every provision of denominations attend, the regular the education acts for the time being in school work to be earried on until four

"No pupil to be permitted to be pres-Parliament is to be withdrawn, and any case the pupil to be dismissed at 3.30. "Where the school room accommodaof the week to different denominations, rooms for the purpose of religious exercises as may be convenient.

WOULD REMOVE GRIEVANCES.

"We believe that the foregoing proposal will remove every well-tounded grievance.

'h the objetion of the minority be that the schools are Protestant, as alleged in some of their petitions, then the objection can be fully and finally disposed of by complete secularization.

"If the real objection be the desire to have along with efficient secular education proper religious training, then the second plan proposed offers an effective method of attaining the object desired.

"In fact, it is difficult to conceive what better plan could be proposed, even were we dealing with a system of schools entirely Catholic. It would be, in any event, necessary to have some general provision as to the time allotted for religious exercises and teaching.

'The individual school could not be permitted to act without restraint. The time suggested seems to be a reasonable and sufficient proportion of the school hours, and the hour in the day is unin the mountime, provided that the con- doubtedly the most convenient for the operation of the conscience clause. "At the same time no distinction of

any kind between denominations would being reached for settlement the Re be made. Absolutely equal rights would medial Bill should be at once withdrawn, prevail. Non-Catholics desiring a greater prevail. Non-Catholics desiring a greater amount of religious instruction than is given at present might carry out their

"White this desirable end would be accomplished, the uniformity and efficiency of the schools to which the children of all denominations would go, would remain absolutely unimpaired and

"(Signed) CLIFFORD SIFTON.
"J. D. CAMERON."

Manitoba Hotel, Winnipeg, March 31st, 1896.

The Commissioners' Reply.

In reply to Manitoba's proposition the Commissioners submitted to Hon. Mr. Greenway a full explanation of the attielucidating a couple of minor points on which the Manitoba Government found the basis of objection, the Commissioners said :—

A few words are necessary as to the character of our memorandum. It was put in general terms as a suggestion basis, upon which our future discussions might proceed with a view to a possible agreement of all parties interested. It is, therefore, open to some of the objections raised by you, inasmuch as it does not deal with details, and professes only to lay down broad lines upon which legis-lation might be drawn. In addition o grants. Not only so, but the whole this we must premise that sufficient weight is not given by you to the untions, constitution of advisory board, doubted legal position of the Roman Canadian Privy Council, as being one Catholics. Under the judgment of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council and the Remedial order they certainly have important legal rights in connection with separate schools, and while the Dominion Parliament may have ju-risdiction to enforce some or all of these rights, it is universally acknowledged

POOR DIGESTION leads to nervousness, chronic dyspepsia and great misery. The best remedy is good the promise to remedy any well- HOOD'S SARSAPARILLA.

that this could be done with more advantherefore, submit a plan of suggested tage to all parties by the local Legislature, and for this reason we are holding

The state of the s

Having explained that they do not ask

too much, the reply thus closes:—
"We must further draw your attention to the flagrant inj stice of the present system, which compels Roman Catholics to contribute to schools to which they cannot conscientiously send their children, and we beg to submit "Our proposition is in the form of an that this fact deserves due weight and consideration. It is to be further noted that the Roman Catholics earnestly desire a complete system of separate schools, on which only their own money would be expended a state of matters which would meet the observation under consideration, but which you decline to grant. Our suggestion was to re-lieve you from the necessity of going as far as this. It is, per-haps, impossible to devise a system that would be entirely unobjectionable theoretically and in the abstract. We

had great hope that what we suggested would commend itself to your judgment as a practical scheme doing reasonably substantial justice to all classes, and securing that harmony and tranquility which are, perhaps, more than anything else to be desired in a young and growing community, such as is now angaged in the task of developing the resources

The ground taken in your fifth objection has been touched on in the preceding remarks. As to clause two of our memorandum, your objections could be met by provisions as to detail. If desired, the privileges of teaching religion could be limited to a certain time in schools attended by Roman Catholics.

The point that provision should be made for non-Catholic children is certainly well taken, and is quite in accordance with our views, which were, in this respect, imperfectly expressed in the memorandum. Neither of the propositions which you make would, as it appears to us, remove the sense of unjust treatment existing amongst the minori ty, nor would they possess the elements of permanency and freedom from frietion in administration, which are certainly necessary for a final and peaceable solution of existing difficulties.

We once more appeal to you in the interests of the whole population of the Province, indeed, of the Dominion, as well as in the interests of the minority to reconsider the decision at which you have arrived and to make some proposal that we could regard as affording a chance of settlement which we so car nestly desire.

(Signed) Donald A. Smith. April Designouss. A. R. Dickey.

Greenway's Final Reply,

In the Reply, of April 1st, which puts an end to all attempts at conciliatory arrangement, Manitoba says :-

The point of difficulty in arriving at a basis of settlement seems to be very clearly defined. You maintain that, in the words of your memorandum, "the Roman Catholies" certainly have important legal rights in "connection with separate schools," and that your idea of the object of the Conference is to give effect to those rights in the most unobjectionable way, through the action of the Legislature of the Province.

We hold, on the contrary, that the constitution gives the Roman Catholics no legal rights in reference to separate schools, except the right of appeal. under which the Federal authority may enjoyed under provincial legislation.

Your proposition aims at the legal recognition by the Legislature of Manitoba of the right of the Roman Catholic people to separate for school purposes. Our proposition aims at removing f every practical objection to the present system without giving a legal right to separate. We understand that by order in council your authority is limited to making a settlement satisfactory to the minority, and as a matter of fact the minority will accept nothing short of statutory recognition of the right of separation. We regard ourseives as precluded, by our declaration of policy preceding our last election, from assenting to such statutory recognition. White joining with you in the earnest desire to reach a settlement, we are unable to suggest any way of reconciling these two propositions.

In a word, we are absolutely debarred from conceding a system of Roman Catholic and state-aided separate schools while the representatives of the minority, and, as a consequence, the Federal Cov ernment, will accept nothing less.

In conclusion, we have the honor to state that, not withstanding the failure of the present negotiations, the Government of the Province will always be pre pared to receive and discuss any sugges tions which may be made with a view to removing any equalities that may be shown to exist in the present law. Signed,

CLIFFORD SIFTON. J. D. Cameros.

SOME OPINIONS.

MR. EWART SPEAKS.

Mr. Ewart had no hesitation in saying that, had it not been for the strong anteelection statements made by the Provincial Government, there could be no difficulty in accepting this proposition, which is, in effect, the system which is in force in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, with the unanimous consent of almost every man in these provinces. The system is carried on there in the face of the law, which provides otherwise, merely because it commends itself to the good judgment of every person.

Mr. Ewart pointed out that the system was the one commended by Mr. Dalton McCarthy in his argument before the which, if the Province was left to itself, it would no doubt adopt.

MR. FISHER'S OPINION. James Fisher, leader of the Provincial Opposition to the Greenway Government, on the school question, said, in an interview to night: "I cannot understand the Local Government failing to accept such a reasonable solution of the question as the Federal Commissioners offered. It was not proposed to establish separate

but all schools to be public and national, objected to by the Local Government. I repeat that I am unable to understand how the school question is longer al lowed to remain unsettled after such a proposal.

RELIGIOUS NEWS IT IMS.

This year the Gregorian calendar mas been introduced into Korea by order of the King.

It is authoritatively announced that Bishop Matz's resignation has been delivered at Rome,

Iowa, has been appointed hishop of the diocese of Cheyenne.

Cardinat Satolli, Papal Delegate to

this country, will say tarewell to America and sail for Rome in May. Don Jayme de Bourbon, only son of the Spanish pretender Don Carlos, has entered the Russian army as a sub-

lientenant of dragoons. The Seminary of Foreign Missions has a successor to the late Superior, Pere-Armbruster, in the person of Pere Delpech, a holy and learned priest.

The relations between France and the Holy See have improved, and it is said that Count de Behaine will return to his post as ambassador about Easter.

in the Catholic University, Washington. at the celebration held in Baffalo, N.Y.

he erection of a church and monastery at the northwest corner of Sixteenth and Center streets, Omaha, under the auspices of St. Joseph's German Catholic church.

The Commission of Cardinals for the Union of the Churches actively pursues its labors. The promised encyclica; on the Primary of the Roman Pontiff will shortly appear. A despatch from New York says that

Archbishop Averardi will be Cardinal | Satolii's successor. The archbishop will first visit. Mexico, to which country be was reported to go as delegate.

We are glad to say that there is no truth in the rumor new going the rounds of the press that Alired Austin, the English writer of verse, though he was originally a Catholic, is now an agnostic. Austin is a Catholic.

The Redemptorist Fathers have purchased for two million marks the celebrated abbey of Einbeck, in Bivaria. It formerly belonged to the Cistercians. and was lately turned into a prison by the German Government. The largest and most influential gatis-

ering of Catholic Germans that has ever been held in the State of Michigan, and the most important convention coming to Detroit this year will be that of the United German Cathone societies. Very Rev. Patrick Foley, president of

Carlow College, who has been nominated conductor to Most Rev. Dr. Lynch, the venerable Bishop of Kildare and Leigh-In, is early thirty-seven years of age, and will be the youngest member of the Irish episcopate. A valuable psalter, printed in 1459.

originally belonging to the Abbey of St. Vincent de Metz, was soid in 1790 to a Jew in Metz for an absendly small prim. The British Museum has now bought it or \$2,256, more than was paid for the Mazarin Bible.

Mrs. Bellamy Storer, of Cincinnati. offered Archoishop Elder a house that cost over \$100,000 and two acres o ground for his residence, but the archhishop declined the offer because it would necessitate his residence away from the cathedral. In aligning to Governor Greethalge's

leath the Vatican of Albany siys: His memory will long be cherished by the good sisters of St. Joseph's Hospital of Lowell, as well as others of another form of belief, for his many fruitful donations while he was but a lawyer's Rev. Thomas J. Shahan, D.D., of the

Catholic University, Washington, D.C., will deliver a series of ten lectures in July next at the University Summer School of the University of Pennsylvania. His subject will be "The Roman Empire and Early Christianity.

A permanent Roman Catholic mission to convert non-Catholics is to be established in New York City and Brooklyn. Rev. Walter Elliott of the Paulist Fathers is directing the movement, which has the sanction of Archbishop Corrigan and Bishop McDoanell.

The Rev. William Smith, S. P. M., of he church of St. Vincent de Paul on West 24d street. New York, who organized and led the American pilgrimage of 1895 to Rome, Lourdes and other European shrines, has been made the director of this year's pilgrimage. The pilgrims will start in July and return in September.

Rev. J. P. Barry, of Lexington, has divised a plan whereby the debt now existing against St. Paul's Church will have been paid at the expiration of three years. It is nothing else than that forty young ladies, whom he has chosen, each secure the names of twenty members of the congregation that are willing to donate the small sum of five cents a week for three years.

A Catholic Truth Society has been organized in Rome. The first meeting, presided over by Archbishop Stoner and attended by eminent ecclesiastics and distinguished laymen, was held last month. St. Thomas Aquinas was chosen the patron of the society. The principal endeavor will be to circulate good Catholic works at a very low price, so as to be within the reach of all.

The death of Sister Anatole, which occurred at the House of the Little Sisters of the Poor, Dudley street, Roxbury, on Wednesday, March 11th, re-

A MEMBER OF THE ONTARIOBOARD OF HEALTH SAYS:

I have prescribed Scott's Emulsion in Consumption and when the digestive schools at all, nothing more than to powers were weak it has been followed by allow schools, in which Catholics were good results."—H. P. YEOMANS, A.B., M.D.

educated, to have religious exercises of | moves from the world one who had spent their own faith. No church control, no nearly half a century in the service of change whatever in the law generally, God. She was seventy-two years of age at the time of her death. During fortywith that simple provision as to exer- six of these years she had been an earncises and a limitation as to text books, est and self-sacrificing member of the which, I am told, was not particularly noble order who care for the poor and aged.

HOLY THURSDAY,

ARCHBISHOP FABRE GEFICIATED -VERY IMPOSING CEREMONIES.

On Holy Thursday, special services appropriate to the occasion were held in If of the churches of the city Archbishop Fabre officiated at the Cathedral. in full pontificals, assisted by the follow ing members of the Archiepiscopal Court : Celebrant's assistant, Vicar-General Bourgeault : deacons of honor, Canon Leblane and Canon Bruchesi; deacon Rev. Father Leniban, of Fort Dodge, and sub-deacon of office, Canon Archam bault and Father Laurier; master of ceremonies, Father Perreault. The service commenced at nine o'clock with a celebration of Grand Mass. After the consecration of the oils and elements. the Host was conveyed to a temporary altar, which had been erected. After the Hest had been placed in its temporary repository, the Archbishop was divested of cope, unitre, alb, maniple and stole, and the purple chimese was placed over his shoulders by the attendant elergy.

Vespers were then sung, at the conclusion of which the venerable prelate visited the main and side alters, and stripped them of their frontals and coverings. He then resumed his pontific Rev. Dr. Simhan, professor of history cals and proceeded with the "Andatum," or washing of feet. Thirteen young delivered a splendid address on Emmet | priests from the Seminary were scated near the front of the chancel. Having The Franciscan Fathers have begun bared their feet, the Archbishop and his assistants knelt down before each it turn, the former pouring water upon the feet of each from a ewer, which was held by one of the attendants. This done. the Archbishop dried the feet with a towel which he held in his hand. The names of the thirteen orbers thus how-ored were: Rev Fathers McManus. Crowly Dann, Danphy, Malone, Reddy, Decarrie, Dollard, Hogan, Magher, Le mond, O'Sulfivan. The ceremony was brought to a close

by the archiepiscopal biessing.

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Men's Hard Felt Hats, \$1 to \$2.95. Men's Soft Felt Hats, \$1 to \$2.50, Boys' Hard Felt Hats, \$1 to \$1 50. Boys' Knockahout Felt Hats, 25c. Boys' Navy Varsity Caps, 16c. Boys' Tweed Varsity Caps, 45c to 42c. Men's Tweed Varsity Caps, 21e to 48c.

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