

lay bare to foreign eyes the utter meanness and degradation of some of our country's political leaders, but it is impossible to tell of the Manitoba school case and omit it.

For several years prior to the year 1888 (two years before the school act we complain of) the Conservatives had been in office. In January of that year, Mr. Burke, the member for St. François Xavier, was asked to join the administration, and his acceptance of office necessitated his re-election. The constituency was predominantly French and Catholic. Mr. Burke was of that nationality and religion, and had at the previous election been elected by acclamation. The Liberals although under suspicion of being antipathetic towards these classes determined to contest the election, and nominated a Protestant Englishman. Their success seemed hopeless, and plainly had to be attained, if at all, by convincing the electorate that the suspicions were absolutely groundless. To accomplish this the most solemn and public promises were made, and those who had been cultivating and spreading the suspicions were denounced as scandalous calumniators. Mr. Joseph Martin the strongest man in the Liberal party made two speeches in the constituency, and declared that if, when his party came into power, it in any way attacked the separate schools, or the use of the French language, *he would leave the party forever*. The President of the Liberal Association for the province was present at one of these meetings, and was appealed to to confirm Mr. Martin's assurance of the policy of the party. By these means Mr. Burke was beaten. Four days afterwards the administration resigned, and the Liberals with Mr. Greenway as Premier, and Mr. Joseph Martin as Attorney-General came into office. Two years afterwards this same Mr. Joseph Martin introduced the bill abolishing the Catholic schools!

The facts just related are not denied. They were recently proved by the declarations of the President of the Liberal Association; of the Liberal candidate at the election; of the Liberal organizer at the election; of the Conservative candidate at the election; and of six of the electors. All these testified that without such promises the Liberals would infallibly have been beaten. We say, again, these facts never have been, and are not, denied. Since that time Mr. Joseph Martin has been politically promoted, and now as representative of the city of Winnipeg in the Commons of Canada, is looked upon as one of the leaders of the Liberal party in Canada!

The Liberals had thus obtained office, but to the exercise of power two things were necessary: (1) to add strength to the administration by inducing some prominent Catholic to join it; and (2) to carry a general election, and for that purpose to secure the