

the influence of Rome. The action of the present Dominion Government on the Manitoba School question, it appears, had to be followed by some concession to Rome, and thus the Pope was requested to send one who might in future be consulted as to all proposed legislation affecting the Roman Catholic religion. We, therefore, see introduced into Canada the thin edge of a wedge which other nations have struggled for centuries to abolish. In Italy the temporal power of the Pope had to be destroyed before the nation could become enlightened and progressive, and what was so long the bane of Italy is now being introduced into Canada. As Orangemen we hold that all creeds and individuals should stand equal before the law, and that the Parliaments of Canada should legislate for the people of this Dominion, regardless of any particular form of religion; that the principle of equal rights to all and special privileges to none should at all times prevail.

The second incident which I wish to notice is the downfall of the Greenway Government in the Province of Manitoba. Different phases of the cause which led to the overthrow of Mr. Greenway have been set forth, but it must be evident to every well-informed person that the action of the Greenway Government on the school law had as much, if not more, to do with that defeat than any other question. That the Government of that Province should first pass a law declaring for non-sectarian Public schools, and receive the plaudits of all Protestantism for so doing, and that so soon as political capital could be made by reversing or changing the law they did so, must in my humble judgment have disgusted every Orangeman or fair-minded man in that young Province. I am, therefore, fully persuaded that had Mr. Greenway continued his National school system, unimpaired by obnoxious amendments, he would to-day be enjoying the confidence of a majority of the people of Manitoba.

THE WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA.

In my address of a year ago I referred to the war between our cousins in the United States of America and Spain. The citizens of the United States living in Cuba, a colony of Spain, as well as the subjects of Spain, had been wrongfully and cruelly treated, and the Government of the United States had from time to time requested Spain to so amend her laws as to remove the grievance; but Spain lent a deaf ear to these pleadings, and the result was war. In that struggle the once mighty nation of Spain was defeated and humbled. The British Empire, recognizing the righteousness of the United States' cause, nobly stood by her kinsmen and insisted that no interference by other powers should take place. That the result of that war will be much to the advantage of the people of Cuba and the Philippines no one will deny. In like manner our Empire is to-day engaged in a struggle with a people who, after the most patient pleadings by the British Government, refused to grant the rights of citizenship to those living in the Transvaal; but on the other hand levied enormous taxes on the Outlanders and used the moneys thus collected for the purpose of fortifying, purchasing arms and ammunition in order to make war upon our nation. That Great Britain has