

DEFIES HIM!

Meredith Will Go Ahead in Spite of All the Power of Rome.

HE REPLIES TO DR. CLEARY

And Scores that Prelate For Calling Him a Hungry Adventurer.

THE PEOPLE MADE THE CONSTITUTION

And the People Can Unmake It and Abolish Separate Schools, Says the Opposition Leader.



W. R. MEREDITH.

Mr. Chairman, I am not going to say anything tonight that will I hope give offence to anybody. I am not here for that purpose...

But let us see, sir, what claims this gentleman has to call men names, to appeal to sectarian cries, and to charge a great party with intolerance and bigotry.

The diabolical spirit of hatred of religious education has found its way unfortunately into the Province of Ontario.

There is the gentleman who appeals for tolerance to the Protestant people of Ontario. (Cheers.)

He says he does it because of the very bad language I have used with regard to the Roman Catholics, and their schools in the Legislature, and through out the campaign, and he says that I am a "hungry adventurer."

Sir, is it rousing intolerance, or bigotry, is it bad language when, upon the floor of the House, I declared against the ostracism of any man by reason of his religious connections...

qualified misstatement. (Laughter and cheers.)

Nothing to do With Religion. Was it intolerant or was it bigotry when I proclaimed, in making the appeal to my countrymen which I make, upon what I believe to be a high public ground, I wanted them to avoid all attacks upon any man's religion?

Those who sit upon the platform know if my way had been accepted I would and I would have been a traitor if I had not responded. (Cheers.)

Mr. Meredith-The gentleman is just as unfair to me as the gentleman I have been referring to, I venture to say if I had consulted what my own interests were I would not have been a party to raise these questions.

I feel it my duty in the interests of this country, present and future, that I should stand by those principles in which I believe. (Applause.)

Those Who Take Care Break. While I believe in standing by the constitution, by the Act of Confederation, I want to tell him that constitutions are made by the people, and that if ever it becomes in the great interests of the people to change that constitution...

Separate Schools and the State. If the state is entitled to require its children to be educated, and that is essential in a democratic country, it follows that every school that shares in the public moneys shall be a school which the state has the right to control...

Qualified Teachers. What I say is, every teacher in these schools should have the same qualifications as a teacher in the Public schools. (Hear, hear.)

Then Mr. Meredith says that he wants the teachers in Roman Catholic schools to be subject to the same examinations and have the same qualifications as teachers in Public schools.

Same Interpretation for All. I want also that these Separate schools should be subject to the same inspection as the schools of the Province of Ontario. (Hear, hear.)

The arithmetic that a Catholic and a Protestant would study? Ought there to be any difference in the history? (Voices-No, no.)

He does not, I think, say so, but what he wants is that they should have the same Inspectors as the Public schools, and who are in almost every instance Protestants.

Don't Want the Histories. His next complaint is in regard to text books. He would have a law by which the Separate School Trustees should be obliged to use the same text books as are used in the Public schools.

Only Poor Schools Employ Teachers Who Have Not Qualified by Regular Examinations. In his address at London Sir Oliver Mowat made the following defence of the treatment accorded by the Liberals to the Separate Schools.

Authorized Text Books With the Exception of Histories and Readers Used. He objects to the same inspectors.

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His speech here the other evening. He complained because we would not insist upon a compulsory ballot system for the Separate Schools.

Comes From Anti-Catholics. It is not to be wondered at that the ballot for Separate schools will be opposed when it comes from the anti-Catholic party.

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same qualifications, and the exception is one which we have no power over. Mr. Meredith admits we have no power over Separate schools, that whatever rights they had at the time of Confederation are beyond our power.

Reasons for the Exception. The reason they wish to stand by that is because many of these schools are poor, and it is important to them to get teachers at the lowest possible expense.

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MGR. CLEARY.

He Calls the Opposition Leader a Hungry Adventurer.

A PASTORAL TO HIS FLOCK.

The Archbishop Has Apparently Arrayed His Church Against W. R. Meredith.

ALLEGED FORCES OF EVIL DENOUNCED.

A Document Which is Playing No Important Part in the Present Election Contest.



Archbishop Cleary, of Kingston, a few days ago issued a pastoral on political and educational affairs to his flock.

After pointing out the duty of parents towards their children, the document said: "This primary parental obligation is all the atmosphere of the Province is poisoned just now by the anti-Christian doctrines of a host of impious journals, and the lying speeches of no-popery politicians...

Catholic Education First. The document then referred at length to the manner in which Joseph and Mary cared for Jesus during his boyhood, and continued as follows: "It is the first duty of the Christian religion imposed on every parent to do this for his child by means of thorough Christian education."

Catholics are Loyal. "We are loyal to our Queen and constitution; we are peace-loving citizens; we desire to live in peace and harmony with our fellow men."

No Persecution. "True Conservatism repudiates the persecution of any section of the community on account of their religious belief and practice. It holds conscience in high respect and treats it as sacred."

Meredith's Bad Language. "The very bad language of the leader of the Opposition, the open alliance between his party and the shameful organization known as the P. P. A., the vote given by him and his entire following with barely one exception in favor of the McCallum Bill, which proposed the

utter abolition of our constitutional right to supply Christian education to our little ones are all in direct contradiction to the principles of Conservatism.

Why should not political elections be conducted on political issues? Why should the Province be periodically disturbed and neighbors forced into quarrels with one another by making no popery the campaign cry in this, as in elections of 1886 and 1890? Why, I repeat, should respectable Conservatism be brought in to disrepute and the true Conservatism of Ontario be made a by-word of reproach by tolerating the hypocrisy of a hungry adventurer, who employs the term "Conservative" as a blind for the deception of the ignorant and the persecution of his Catholic fellow-citizens?

TO THE POLLS

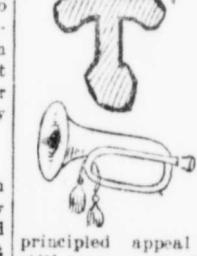
The Catholic Register Issues a Call to the Catholic Electorate.

MEREDITH MUST BE BEATEN

Accused of Making War on Their Religion and Their School System.

A SOLID VOTE SHOULD BE CAST AGAINST HIM

An Editorial of an Extraordinary Campaign Document—What Will Its Effect Be?



The following is from the Toronto Catholic Register of May 26 on the school question: "Duty calls. More strictly speaking, we are driven to it. The insolent policy that threatens our schools has driven us to it. The unprincipled appeal to bigotry and the still more unprincipled attempt to keep our people from all office and representation, are reasons why we and every other Catholic in the land should make our voice heard in the silent yet powerful ballot which, as citizens, it is our right to use."

"We cannot stand idly by and see this Province given up to the desecrating ravages of bigots who hate what we hold dear, and who insult what we love most. That is the duty we owe our country. We cannot hand over the grave interests of our co-religionists to a party whose avowed policy is in matters of education, to render our schools unworkable and de-Catholicize them so that they will be merely Separate in name to prevent this danger is a duty we owe our conscience."

Mr. Meredith's policy for a long time has been the policy of strife and war against Catholic institutions. The name of Ryerson, without wishing that the sins of one generation should be visited upon another, is not likely to be acceptable to Catholics in Ontario who know their friends and foes. We are not so dull of comprehension.

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It is a bitter irony upon politics in a Province like Ontario, that party lines are drawn not upon political or economic questions so much as upon semi-religious ones. Still more bitter is the irony, that people who talk so much about freedom of conscience and individual liberty, should accord so little of it to those who, in matters of education, are guided by a religious principle, not temporal advantage.

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