

While I am not ashamed of my position as a Protestant—I adhere to my position in that respect—I come here not to discuss the question of religion; I come here prepared to fight the battles of Liberalism along with every man who is prepared to take the same stand, and I shall not inquire what his religion is. The hon. gentleman seems to think that he and his party should have a monopoly in the business of blending the Green and the Orange. Well, I notice in the newspapers this evening that the hon. the Controller of Customs and the hon. the Minister of Trade and Commerce—I do not know whether they are yellow or what their colour is, I do not stop to inquire what their colour is—but I see by the newspapers that they are to speak at an Orange meeting to-morrow; and yet the First Minister, who thinks he can throw an epithet of contempt upon me, by calling me the Yellow Martin, still retains these orange birds in his Cabinet, and sends them out through the country to pick up Protestant votes, to get Protestant Orange support for him, while he himself undertakes the duty of hunting up the Catholic vote. Even in that respect, if we are to judge by the present attitude of His Grace the Archbishop of St. Boniface, the hon. the First Minister seems to have somewhat fallen from grace as the great Catholic leader of this country. I notice that the Conservative French papers of the province of Quebec consider it a mortal sin for the hon. leader of the Opposition to have done me the honour of introducing me to this House. Well, Mr. Speaker, I have been for a good many years in politics; although not in the larger arena in which I now find myself, but I can say that never, at any time in my life, have I devoted myself to politics with more heart, with more pride, and I may say with more certainty of success, than I do to-day, ranged under the banner of the hon. leader of the Opposition. The fact that that hon. gentleman differs from me in religion is to me, under the circumstances, rather a pride and a pleasure, because it gives me an opportunity of showing that when I advocated the abolition of separate schools in the province of Manitoba I did so not as a religious matter, but because I am firmly convinced that it is not part of the duty of the state to interfere in any way, shape or form with the question of religion, that it is the duty of the state to leave to the individual the right to follow his own conscience in those matters. Sir, let me say that when we have to deal with great questions of policy in this country, there is no reason why, because certain Roman Catholics in this House support him like-member, that I should not support him likewise, and on the other hand, I hope they will consider that the fact that my record upon the school question has been such as is known to you, disagreeing as they do with me upon this question, and because I happen to be a Liberal—I say I hope they will con-

sider that no reason why we should not stand shoulder to shoulder together with the hon. leader of the Opposition; I hope they will consider that no reason why they should not loyally stand by him in the great fight that we have on hand in the interests of our native country.

Motion agreed to (on a division).

Sir JOHN THOMPSON moved :

That the Address be engrossed and be presented to His Excellency by such members of the House as are of the Privy Council.

Motion agreed to.

SUPPLY.

Sir JOHN THOMPSON moved :

That this House will on Wednesday next resolve itself into a Committee to consider of a supply to be granted to Her Majesty.

Motion agreed to.

WAYS AND MEANS.

Sir JOHN THOMPSON moved :

That this House will on Wednesday next resolve itself into a Committee to consider of the Ways and Means for raising the supplies to be granted to Her Majesty.

Motion agreed to.

SELECT STANDING COMMITTEES.

Sir JOHN THOMPSON moved :

That a special committee of seven members be appointed to prepare and report with all convenient speed lists of members to compose the Select Standing Committees ordered by the House on Thursday last the 15th instant, to be composed of Sir John Thompson, Sir Adolphe Caron, Sir Richard Cartwright and Messrs. Costigan, Haggart, Laurier and Mills (Bothwell).

Motion agreed to.

ADJOURNMENT—THE NEW BRUNSWICK JUDICIARY.

Sir JOHN THOMPSON moved the adjournment of the House.

Mr. DAVIES (P.E.I.) The hon. First Minister intimated the other day in conversation across the floor that he would inform the House at its next sitting whether the acceptance of Judge Palmer's resignation had been communicated to that gentleman. I should like to ask the hon. gentleman to make the statement now, and also if he will be kind enough to say when we may reasonably hope to have the papers in connection with that matter.

Sir JOHN THOMPSON. Yes. I looked at the dates. The resignation was dated the 5th; my report was on the 7th; that report was approved on the 9th, and the acceptance of the resignation was communi-