## **NICHOLAS WILSON & CO** 186 Dundas Street,

## Tallors and Gents' Furnishers,

## FINE AND MEDIUM WOOLLENS A SPECIALTY.

ENSPECTION INVITED AN OPEN LETTER TO HON. C. F. FRASER, FROM MR. J. L. P. O'HANLY.

Ottawa is the only town of Ontario where Catholics are a majority. It is also the only town on this continent where the minority rule by law. The

also the only town on this continent where the minority rule by law. The population is as follows:—

Date. Cath. Pro. Total. 1851 4708 2,962 7,670 1861 8,267 6,402 14,669 1871 12,735 8,610 21,545 1881 16,901 11,521 27,422

MUNICIPAL BISTORY.

In 1854 an act passed incorporating Bytown as the City of Ottawa. The division into wards was so "gerry mandered" that three wards were assigned the Protestant minority, while the Catholic majority were hived in the remaining two. The new council atood in the proportion of three Protestants to two Catholics, the reciprocal of the ratio of the sales. proportion of three Protestants to two Catholics, the reciprocal of the ratio of the relative populations; and this ratio has been pretty generally maintained ever since, any of the Protestant wards only rarely electing a Catholic. The first official act of the new council was the—selection of a Protestant mayor. While the selection of the Chief Magistrate was vested in councils we Magistrate was vested in councils we have only one Catholic mayor. The second efficial act was the dismissal of every Catholic employee of the Corporation substituting Protestants in their places. This exclusion has been pretty closely followed ever since. The permanent employees appointed by the Corporation now in office, with salaries of \$600 and upwards, consist of fifteen Protestants, with aggregate salaries of \$17,840, and nine Catholics with \$7,460. Though the Irish Catholics constitute about a fourth of the population, they receive of this the munificent sum of \$840. Besides this the council indirectly control the expenditure of the Callegiate Lastitute, as they appoint the truscontrol the expenditure of the Callegi-ate Institute, as they appoint the trus-tees, amounting to \$8,000 for teachers and others, all Protestants, I am in-formed. No exception is taken to the incumbents, it is only the system is

between 225,000 and 230,000, of whom 100,000 are Catholics, that the municipal council consists of 40 members, 10 aldermen and 30 councillors. When asked how many of these 40 are Catholics, his reply was characteristic—a black record "not one." Nor could he name a single employee above the status of a common laborer under the corporation. Is this a fair specimen of British Protestant to! eration and liberality?

It was further sworn that there are in

the harbor; and in these four boards there is just one Catholic. Ottawa is not quite as far advanced as the "modern Athens," but what with its annexation and other schemes, it is on the high road-to perfection; and if it has not attained that proud eminence, it is not for want of a will amongst a mejority of our separated amongst a majority of our separated brethren, of whom the Free Press is a distinguished and shining light.

Under the old regime the whole children were educated together. With the new dispensation came reparate scheels for the majority, which seems contrary to law as I understand it. The high schools are supported by the whole people. Previous to 1874 the majority here had not a solitary representative on the not a solitary representative on the board, and since then are only allowed

wo out of tix. A SECOND "GERRYMANDER" ATTEMPTED.
Alarmed at the encroachment of the "papacy" on their sacred preserves, the secondancy faction of the dominant minseendancy faction of the dominate mini-rity conceived, in 1884, the brilliant les of a second shuffle of ward re-dis-ribution, which, if consummated, would nature their ascendancy for another half tre their ascendancy for another half tury. The proposition, which was aln an ace of being carried, was her more nor less than the re-arrangat of the three original Protestant ds into five and to leave the two colic wards undisturbed. This would the Protestant minority fifteen men and the Catholic majority six. scheme was barely frustrated ugh the manly courage, sturdy hon-and fine sense of justice of Alder. and fine sense of justice of Alder-Brown; and you may be sure that reachery to the noble cause of Pro-tent ascendancy will not soon be for-ce. They persisted to the extent of pealing to the Government that ten intituted two thirds of sixteen.

THE NEXT MOVE. thing daunted at their recent fail-like brave and resolute Spartans, lost no time in setting about a new me. They bit on the ingenious of annexing New Edinburgh, rice of annexing New Edinburgh, ch did not require the two-thirds and the silly "Popish" geese fell into trap. None object to the annexaon fair terms, nor can the villagers centured in their endeavors to secure meat favorable terms of admission. or with the village guardians as to sof union. The vice-regal suburb

APPEAL TO THE LOCAL G. VERNMENT.
The wronged and oppressed majority
appealed to the local government for
protection as a court of last resort. In
the hands of honest, intelligent advocates, the case is so clear, just and cquitable, that it would be d fligult to conceive any fair minded, unbiased person deciding against; and so thought the Ontario Government. The best evidence stees, amounting to \$8,000 for teachers and others, all Protestants, I am informed. No exception is taken to the incumbents, it is only the system is criticised.

BELFAST AND OTTAWA COMPARED.

In the proceedings of the Royal Commission on the recent Belfast riots, the town clerk, a Mr. Black, under oath testified that the population of Belfast is between 225,000 and 230,000, of whom 100,000 are Catholics, that the municipal council consists of 40 members, 10 aldermen and 30 councillors. When asked how many of these 40 are Catholics, his reply was characteristic—a black record "not one." Nor could he name a single mot one." Nor could he name a single conforce under the corporation. Is this a fair specimen of British Protestant toleration and liberality?

It was further sworn that there are in Belfast four elective boards, viz., the municipal, the water, the poor law, and the harbor; and in these four boards there are for the cabinet would not only clog the wheels of state, but actually ber of the cabinet would not only clog the wheels of state, but actually bring the whole machine to standstill. Nor can the doctrine be accepted ingeniously disguised with the green mantle of "Home Rule" to extract the gullible Irish sting, which assigns the government a passive agency, only for giving affect to the wish of assigns the government a pessive agency, only for giving effect to the wish of the interested parties without any option of their own. The manifest design of the Legislature in imposing this duty on the executive was to allow them a wide discretion in the exercise of the prerogative in doubtful or unjust cases like the present. Why, then, was not the appearing proplamation not insued. cases like the present. Why, there, was not the annexing proclamation not issued within the time fixed by law? The question admits of only one rational, intelligible answer—the government ruled against the project, and afterwards in the face of their own decision and convictions yielded to the clamors of bigotry. True Liberals, who set principle above place, would march onward in the path of duty, heedless of abuse and misrepre-sentation, and submit, if need be, to a thousand defeats rather than abandon a thousand deteats rather than abandon a just cause or tarnish their reputations. The Ottawa Free Press, in veiled phrases, like the Delphic oracle, hints that an aspirant for the Carleton Registrarship guarantees the government immunity if they, in their turn, guarantee him the coveted prize. In other words this place-hunter carries in his breeches

> the only legitimate inference which can be drawn from the organ's mutterings, be drawn from the organ's mutterings.
>
> REPRESENTATION IN THE CABINET.
>
> Whatever the attitude of your colleagues, it does appear to me that resignation was the only honorable and dignified alternative left you, assuming that you are in fact as well as in name the representative in the Cabinet of Ontario Catholics. I respectfully submit that your co religionists are entitled to a full and candid explanation of your course on this important question; and I course on this important question; and I confess my surprise and disappointment that you have not deigned to do so long before this. With your apparent derelection, it is imperative that they should learn from your own lips how far you practically represent them in the Cabinet as special guardian of their menaced rights and liberties. How many more surrenders to bigotry may not be made? Mr. Mowat's letter is far

And the protestants of the process o

Ottawa to organize for the local elections, to consult me about the conduct of the campaign, and enlist my active co operation. (I may remark entpassant that in 1879, with the defeat of McKenzie still inging in our ears, my counsel of offering, as Liberals, no opposition to the local government, prevailed). For many years previously, Mr. O'Donohoe and I acted in complete accord on public questions generally. We held views absolutely identical and worked in perfect wiscenie exerce existing having for its unison in every agitation having for its aim the amelioration of the status of Irish Canadians and the practical recog-Irish Canadians and the practical recognition of their equality as citizens. From our previous relations it was not unreasonable that Mr. O'Donohoe should calculate on my sympathy and support. After hearing my friend's programme, I spoke to the following effect:

—"While I entertain no great love or admiration for the Mowat Government:
—with its timid, 'shilly shally' policy, as witness the annual tickering at the franchise until the qualification is in such chaos that it is hard to know who is entitled to vote—sound Liberals would cut the 'Gordian knot' and march fearlessly forward to the plain, intelligible and easily understood goal of universal suffrage. While such is my opinion of suffrage. While such is my opinion of the Government, I cannot approve of opposition until, at least, I see my way clear to replace them with better, which I am unable at present to discern. I will not knowingly countenance a policy of whose propriety I am doubtful, nor embark in an enterprise to whose utility I am not reconciled. I will not incur the grave responsibility of advising such of my countrymen as may be disposed to heed my counsel, to cast their ballots against Mowat, for I cannot conscientiously say that such a proceeding would against Mowat, for I cannot conscienti-ously say that such a proceeding would be in the interest of the people in gen-eral, or of Irishmen in particular." I would not mention this matter, though no secret, without the consent of the parties, but their opposition was well known to be open, active and undis-

Had I then, my dear Fraser, but consulted personal inclination, nothing could be to me more gratifying than the defeat of the Government, ex cept lending a hand in its consumma-tion. I had many a score to settle many a slight to avenge. I knew the Government individually and collectively were using their influence to pull down my chantier and bury me in the ruins. I knew that my honest criticism and fearknew that my honest criticism and fear-less, outspoken condemnation of that travesty on Liberal Government, yelept the Macket zie regime, gave mortal offense to the caucus, and that my sin was re-gistered amongst the unpardonable; and the correctness of my conclusions have been confirmed by succeeding events. I knew I had nothing to gain but most to lose by your success. I knew that if I allied with the Opposition and took an pocket the Catholic vote of Ottawa to be bartered in his own interest, for that is I knew I had nothing to gain but most to lose by your success. I knew that if I allied with the Opposition and took an active part in their battle, "heads or tails," I win. For though they lost in Toronto, they had friends in Ottawa in a position to reward my services. Add to this the belief, well or ill founded matters not, that I possessed a lever of immense power in the campaign, Mr. Mowat knows to what I refer. Surrounded with these temptations, impelled by these incentives, with a disinterestedness never excelled, I sat silent and inactive, only casting my ballot for and inactive, only casting my ballot for the Government candidate, because, and only because, that I could not reconcile with my convictions that a change of government could then be in the interest of the Irish inhabitants of Onta

Advanced thin kers are agreed that representative institutions, under the bure majority test, having failed to realize the true intent of delegated authority—a hearing for every class and interest of the commonwealth proportional to numbers. This case that the Hon. Edward Blate. Recently, in the skating rink here, I was charmed, no less than edified and instructed by his powerful eloquence, copent reasoning and a titest enalysis of the inadequacy of the present system, which he felicitously illustrated by a comparison and contrast of the proportions of Liberal and Conservative electors and representatives of Eistern Ontario, as

with Catholics. deal equitably with Catnolics. No Fiorestant interest worth preserving can possibly suffer by doing justice to Catholics. It is not improbable that had you and your party been in the "cold shades" for some of this time much more would have been accomplished in the way of reform. Opposition seems to be the true sphere of the reformer. Power enervates, possession satiates. CONFLICT OF PARTY AND MINORITY INTERESTS.

There are unfortunately some public questions on which the Catholics of Ontario, whether Liberal or Conservative, find themselves at variance with party platforms. Take as illustration the reconstruction of the Senate. As a Liberal I am thoroughly in accord with the Opposition in their objections against its present constitution, whilst I recognize on the other hand that it would be eriminal folly for the minority not only criminal folly for the minority not only to assist in the change, not only to look passively on, but not to use every con stitutional means in their power to secure its defeat. I was the first man in Canada who publicly condemned both in my remarks at the Reform Convention, and in my address and campaign speeches to the electors of Russell, the nomi native principle then introduced after recent condemnation as reactionary and retrogressive. Now, after nineteen years' experience, I, as one of the minority, am constrained by the hard logic of facts to revoke that judgment and to stand by the present system. With the incep-tion of confederation the Catholics of

a fair but a generous representation (five). Hence they cannot support re-construction unless guaranteed fair representation,
Take as a second illustration a prominent plank in Mr. Meredith's platform appointment by county councils of public officials, as sheriffs registrars, coroners, etc. The adoption of that plan would be an evil day for the minority, with naught to commend it to the majority, but its novelty. Had he proposed the elective principle, it would, at least, have the merit of being pro-gressive. Whatever chance exists now

Ontario had not a single representative in the Senate, so that the nominative

had, not only no advantage over the elective to recommend it, but had the additional danger of retrogression. But

low the Ontario minority have not only

for the minority of getting a little share, the proposed change would extinguish. There is, at least, this advantage on the present system of sppointments: men occupying the highest positions in the state may fairly be assumed to possess some, at least, of the qualifications commence with their high trust. They are slways in the presence of a vigilant public opinion. They are closely watched, their every act, and convassed and criticised. They have characters to make or to break, reputations to maintain or mar, which compel them, nolens volens, to pay some deference to public decency, while from the ignorant and irresponsible rings which manipulate and control councils nothing can be hoped. I may add that I am in accord with the Government in their so-called pilfening of municipalities—your fault lies in applying the rod too sparingly. I was, I believe, the first to suggest to Mr. Blake when Ontario Premier, and afterwards to Mr. Mowat, who carried out, the commendable changes of

A DIGRESSION.

Ar. Mowat does the Catholics of Ontario less than bare justice in exonerating them of evil designs against the rights or liberties of their Protestant fellow citizens, of any intention of seeking with the provided the property seeking and the provided the provided that the provided by the provided that the provided by the provided that the provided by the provided low citizens, of any intention of seeking undue privileges or dangerous concessions, of any plotting to extort special tayours, or conspire to do or participate in any other act that would be inimical to the best interests of our common country. From long and varied experience on the subject of Catholic claims and demands, I am in a position to state with the authority begotten of experience. For the last thirty odd years I have been intimately identified with cover responsers and estitation in Onta.

Other indicated by higher authority. Having sketched the municipal history of Ottawa, I shall in my next briefly review its political parrative, the growth and progress, embellished with pen and ink sketches of the chief actors in the drama. This, if of no other utility, with serve a useful purpose as a piece of truthful history of the events recorded.

Yours very respectfully,
J. L. P. O'HANLY. and demands, I am in a position to state with the authority begotten of experience. For the last thirty odd years I have been intimately identified with have been intimately identified with every movement and agitation in Ontario, whether on the platform, in the press or closet (not the lodge), having for its object the material improvement of Irish Canadians and their elevation to a plane co equal with the rest of the needle. In all which he felicitously illustrated by a comparison and contrast of the proportions of Liberal and Conservative electors and representatives of Eastern Ontario, as registered and classified at the last general election. The former to the latter are in the ratio of thirty one to thirty five (I quote from memory), and the representation with the rest of the people. In all these long and trying years, I can say without egotism, that whoever was rejected in the measure of abuse, slander and misrepresentation which fell to my share is any criteriom of usefulness. the ratio of thirty one to thirty five (I quote from memory), and the representatives as three to twenty-seven, instead of being according to numbers—as fourteen to sixteen. Recent legislation in the case of Toronto admits the principle; the thin edge of the wedge being inserted, but more, it is to be feared, for party gains than public utility. I see no reason why, by this time, the cumulative system of voting is not introduced in the provincial elections, municipal, scholastic and legislative; nor do I see any inauperable difficulty in its practical application. It is an old saying, "Where there's a will there's a way." It is no invasion of Protestant rights, no infringement, no curtailment of Protestant privileges to deal equitably with Catholics. No Pro-ity and misrepresentation which fell to my share is any criteriom of usefulness, devotion or ability, then would I be devotion or ability, then would I be extent of our demands, our most extrav-sgant claims consist of applications to be treated as our neighbors: slaves only would be content with less. To be treated and trusted like the rest of our highest aspirations, our supreme ambition. This is our country, too, the place by choice of others, an essentis We appreciate our heritage as much as any other section of the people. We know we are co-partners in the country's prosperity and adversity. The affairs of our Pro-ity and adversity. The affairs of our Pro-ity and adversity. ity and adversity. The affairs of our Protestant neighbors cannot be beneficially or injuriously affected as a whole without similarly acting upon us. We claim to be as good, as patriotic, as law abiding citizens, as true, devoted and loyal to Canada as any other class or section of the population. We ask to be judged, inspected, branded by the same standard of individual worth, merit, excellence, by which the rest of the community are weighed and measured. We pledge our sacred honors, the only heritage which some of us, at least, ever possessed, to abide by these tests. Not a murmur shall abide by these tests. Not a murmur shall be raised nor a whisper heard against the the just decree, which rejects the unfit or consigns the unworthy to appropriate oblivion. We do not want, if we could, to build a "Chinese wall" of separation between us and the rest of the people, for, if only on purely seltish instincts, we know that we would be the greatest, if not the only sufferers. Let them marvel not, however, if we murmur, sometimes loudly, at urjust suspicions and unfair discriminations. We priest, and will continue to protest, against being

and will continue to protest, against being ignored, set aside, ostracised from the public service of our country, crushing laudable ambition, because of the accidents of birth or "bringing up." We ask for fair play and no favor in the sharp struggle for existence, in the conflict of clashing interests, conscious that if our lamps are not trimmed we will be left in darkness.

Nor are we unmindful that by an inexorable law of our being (the strong prey on the weak), religious minorities in the most favorable circumstances of experience labor under many disadvantages. Many of these bearing the outward guise of religion we recognize as the cunningly devised subterfuges of selfi-hness, which collects tribute alike from virtue and vice. This knowledge robs subordination of much of its sting, restrains inordinate ex pectations, and minimises just demands within prudent moderation.

UNFOUNDED CHARGES AGAINST CATHOLICS Catholics are every now and then charged with extorting from the Government privileges denied the rest of the people. The nature and extent of the people. The nature and extent of the concession are so vague and intangible always in."

Johnnie's Master was the all seeing

Johnnie's Master was the all seeing that when you attempt to grasp them they yanish into thin air like the "baseless fabric of a vision." The public are never to do wrong, adopt Johnnie's motio, "My favored with a peep at the mystericus Master is always in."

was, I believe, the first to suggest to Mr.
Blake when Ontario Premier, and afterwards to Mr. Mowat, who carried it out, the commendable changes of appointing division court clerks and bail ffs by responsible authority. In giving my reasons for the change, I well remember having a lively "set to" with the former, who in his arrogent and repulsive way sought to bloow beat me for impugning in these appointments the honor of the jadges, though before the close he may have though that they were not all like Casar's wife. I hope that if the Government be sustained, as the signs of the times, the political barometer, indicate, whatever may be my opinion of the propriety or my be my opinion of the propriety of the kind which never yet the evidence of his own casted the evidence of his

O.t.wa, 11 h December, 1886.

## Ordinations.

Mgr. Fabre, A chbishop of Montreal, conferred sacred and other orders on the following candida'es in the thip of the G and Seminary, Mentreal, on the 18th

inst. Fifty six assisting the imposition of hands. PRIESTHOOD. Martin Marsolais Martin Mobillard DEACONSHIP. Montreal SUB-DEACONSHIP.

MINOR ORDERS Providence Grand Rapids Springfield Burlington Manchester Charlottetown Hartford Providence Manchester TONSURE. 

"Johnnie," said a man, winking styly to a clerk of his acquaintance in a dry measure; your master is not in."

Johnnie looked up in the man's face
very seriously and said, "My master is