

the wonderful progress of the Association. While we were celebrating the anniversary in Canada, our Brethren in Ireland and elsewhere were likewise engaged. The progress of Orangeism is a conspicuous historical fact, and its million of members are amongst the brightest and best of Queen Victoria's sons. It is found to-day strong in British America, strong in the Australian and South African Colonies and rapidly advancing in the Mother Land. The celebrations this year have been the most enthusiastic and successful in the history of the Association—far surpassing any previous ones in the number of members present, the number of visitors, as well as in earnest appreciation of the aims and objects of Orangeism. Enormous meetings were held in every Province. In Nova Scotia ten thousand assembled at Shubenacadie, and never was there a more satisfactory demonstration. For the first time in a quarter of a century the Orangemen marched in procession in the city of Halifax. In New Brunswick monster gatherings were held at Sussex and Fredericton. In Ontario the Brethren assembled in thousands at Prescott, Welland, Exeter, Owen Sound, Brampton, Tara, Mount Forest, Thornton, Port Hope, Castleton, Bobcaygeon, Cookstown, Kinmount, Weston, Georgetown, Beaverton, Bracebridge, Frankford, Toronto, Hamilton, Stratford. The Orangemen of Quebec Province also loyally observed the glorious anniversary at many important centres. In Manitoba, the North-west Territories, and British Columbia monster gatherings were held, practically the whole able-bodied population of the Great West turning out for a general holiday.

At Stratford, where I had the honor of addressing the brethren, I was agreeably surprised; fully 20,000 loyalists assembled to do honor to the day and the cause. Such records are unparalleled in the history of Orangeism in British America.

Since our last meeting the Manitoba school question has entered upon a new stage. The decision of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council of Great Britain, the highest court in the Empire, maintaining the validity of the Provincial enactments, terminated the attempt to restore the Separate School system by ordinary legal process. Accordingly the minority in Manitoba renewed before the Federal Government their petition for redress under Section 22 of the "Manitoba Constitutional Act." The sub-Committee of the Privy Council of Canada has heard the grounds upon which the petition for redress is based, and at their suggestion the Government has referred to the Supreme Court (from whose decision an appeal will be taken to England) the question whether in view of the decision of the Judicial Committee of Great Britain the right of interference on the part of the Federal authorities exists. It may be pointed out that the Government of Canada has not taken any action upon the petition of the Manitoba minority on the merits or demerits of the question, pursuing, it seems to me, the proper course, as provided by the law of the land, of ascertaining precisely what their powers are. Meanwhile the Public School system, in accordance with the will of the people, expressed through their Legislature, is in operation in Manitoba. Should the question of reverting to the Separate Schools in Manitoba even obtrude itself, in the broader field of Dominion

politics, of which I have members of our Association the system which they believe of the nation.

I have the honor to present from Right Worshipful B. Brunswick, which exhausts School law of that Province, all the facts connected with the case, and the views of the esteemed brother. Bro. K. tion dear to the principles commending to the serious Lodge, Bro. Fowler's exha

Since our last meeting serious form. Mr. Gladstone independence of Ireland rushed through the British members. For the first time in people's representatives in discussion on a measure which threaten the very foundation of patriotic conduct of the loyal in vigorously opposing by such a measure, meets with laying before this Grand L. Ulster Loyalists' Union, and sympathy and co-operation brethren in Ulster and the glorious struggle for faith

In conclusion, I congratulate prosperity which has characterized the year. Orangeism shores of Newfoundland on the west, and away to Orange Halls dot the surface of civilization, serving as a of civil and religious liberty and testantism; they being the clergy of the various Prot

The officers of the Grand the discharge of their duties will be very interesting, w

I trust that the deliberated by its customary spirit great good may follow.

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