

the report last session—I cannot remember it exactly, but these men all spoke upon this question, and protection for the minority was incorporated in the constitution of the country. Now, as regards Manitoba, the matter was dealt with in a similar way, and I contend that the minority of Manitoba have their rights under the constitution as safely given and guaranteed to them and they cannot be deprived of them. We have no right to take their rights from them if we would. They are as clearly entitled to their rights as the premier or the Attorney General is to represent the country. Their rights are under that Confederation Act, and I say that under that Confederation Act the Roman Catholics have that inalienable right, and because their numbers are diminished they should not and cannot be deprived of their rights. If the numbers had been increased, we should not have found Manitoba acting in this tyrannical way. It was only because the majority and the government deemed the Roman Catholics an insignificant body in the country that they took upon themselves to ignore them. I say their rights cannot be ignored, and that they will not be ignored, and if any province of the Dominion attempts to ignore the rights of the minority or the just rights of any body, the tendency is to make the demands of that body more vigorous, and in the end their rights must be acknowledged. But we know well how the Liberal government of that time obtained office. They rode into power upon false pledges. When it was considered that the rights of the Roman Catholics were in danger, they declared to them upon the hustings that their rights were inalienable; that they had them under the constitution; that they were inalienable rights under the constitution, and could not be taken from them. By their conduct and their false promises they lured the people from taking the stand that they would otherwise have taken. Even the Archbishop was approached and made to believe that the rights of his body would not be infringed upon and that he should not use his influence in the election to protect their schools, which were not in danger. By means of these false promises the Ministry came into power, and you see how they used their power. They used it in a way that cannot be commended. Because of their mismanagement and maladministration they became unpopular and then, in order to sus-

tain themselves in power, they took advantage of the prejudices of the majority of the people and by such means they were enabled to continue in power. I cannot see in what way my hon. friend could sustain or attempt to sustain the position he took with regard to the insignificance of the minority in that province, or say that the Roman Catholics would ever consent to a diminution of their privileges unless they were compelled to do so by some stronger influence which could be brought to bear upon them. It is contrary to their conscientious convictions to adopt the general schools of the country and contrary to the dictates of their church. Even our own church of England is in favour of church schools. We believe that to train a man and bring him up properly he should be educated in religious observances and should have a proper religious faith—that he cannot well fulfil his duties and prepare himself for his end unless with his secular education is blended a religious training.

My hon. friend the leader of the opposition spoke of the National Policy having been a failure and he told us that the manufactures of Canada were a fungous growth; in fact he would have us go back to a half civilized state. In his opinion manufactures are not indigenous to the soil or country and are being kept up artificially, and he thinks that we ought to do without them, that we should confine ourselves to the farm, the fisheries, the forest, and the dairy. I do not believe in any such policy as that. I do not know that my hon. friend would make a success of milking cows, and I would not be of much account on a raft, nor would he. I believe our industries should be developed, because the manufacturing industries are a great benefit to the home market. The best market for our Canadian farmers is the manufacturing and labouring classes in the country. Nine-tenths of the farm products of the country are consumed by the artisans and labourers of the country, and the hon. gentleman would deprive them of that, and do as they did under the Mackenzie government, when many million dollars worth of United States products were admitted free of duty and brought into direct competition with our own farm products in our own country, while our exports were met at the boundary of the United States by a high tariff. That was the position of affairs under the Mackenzie administration. All