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are unwilling that a suitable provision should be made for the general education of the people. An appropriation for that object, in which the Franco-Canadians would participate on equal terms with others, would be regarded as one of the greatest boons the Legislature could bestow. More than this cannot be conceded, and more than this ought not to be asked.

It is by no means the least singular incident in this proceeding, that the Ordinance should be brought forward with the sanction and concurrence of the Ministers of the Crown. The Parliamentary debates on the late Ministerial scheme of education in Great Britain and Ireland, contrast, oddly enough, with the views and intentions of Ministers on the same subject, in regard to this Province; and it is worthy of remark that, so far as can be judged from the opinions of the speakers on that occasion, there is no considerable party in Parliament, whether Whig or Tory, Radical or Conservative, that would not reprobate and condemn the principle embodied in the Ordinance, which, nevertheless, with all its imperfections and absurdities, is graciously tendered to the people of this Colony as a special act of Ministerial favour.

By the 14th Geo. III. cap. 83, it is provided that the Catholic Clergy "may hold, receive, and enjoy their accustomed dues and rights, *with respect to such persons only as shall profess the said religion,*" and under that authority the Catholic Clergy claim and receive tithes, from those of their own persuasion only. The exemption of the Protestant landowners from the payment of those dues and rights, has not been attended with practical inconvenience, or given rise to religious dissensions or animosity. Here, then, was a precedent which might advantageously have been applied to the present case; and if the Government, in its wisdom, see fit to appoint the Ecclesiastics of the Seminary of St. Sulpice, in perpetual succession, as commissioners to superintend the education of a part of the people, the "dues and rights" wherewith they are to be endowed, ought, in common justice, to be drawn from those only who belong to their persuasion, and for whose especial benefit the endowment is to be made.

It may be that the landed proprietors of French origin, will object to this plan of raising a revenue for "the objects, intents, and purposes" of the Seminary, against which indeed it might reasonably be urged that the entire expense of educating the people ought not to fall on the landed interest alone; but if those who *would* benefit by the endowment of the St. Sulpicians can assign this as a valid plea, why they should not be taxed for that purpose, it surely cannot be expected that others who *do not* benefit by the endowment, will submit to so grievous a wrong.

There is another party to the case, whose rights have been overlooked. If it has been determined upon by the Government, to compel the *Censitaires* to purchase the fulfilment of a Royal promise, the revenue so raised is as much the property of the public as the timber fund, the land fund, or any other branch of what is termed the Crown Revenue, and ought, in common justice, to be made available for the public service. A wasteful and prodigal grant of funds, more than sufficient to complete some great Provincial work of general utility, after the Government has announced its intention to effect a Legislative union of the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, is a matter deeply interesting to the people of both Provinces; and it is hoped and believed, that such a manifestation of public opinion will be exhibited, as will induce the Government to abandon a project indefensible.