

Manitoba Schools

Clear Review of the Situation by
Hon. Geo. W. Ross.

Wandering and Bungling Brought
Home to the Ottawa Govern-
ment.

Fake Play and Generosity to Minorities
the Liberal Policy.

Manitoba Will Address All Grievances if
Properly Treated.

Taking up the question of the
Manitoba schools, in his recent ad-
dress at a mass meeting of electors
in Orangeville, Hon. George W. Ross,
Minister of Education, said: "As a
matter of policy there were two modes
of settlement—one, easy, effective and
conclusive, by the Legislature that was
primarily responsible for the grievance
complained of; the other, difficult,
exhaustive and inconclusive, by the Par-
liament of Canada in the exercise of
its power to pass remedial legislation.
With a poverty quite inexplicable, the
Government of the day chose the latter
course, and at its door now lies the
responsibility for this unholy war, which
must last until the question is
settled at the polls.

Mark the folly of the proceedings. A
young Province, actuated by a desire
to improve its school system, inad-
vertently placed itself within the con-
stitutional grasp of the Dominion Gov-
ernment. Immediately, through its
Premier and Attorney-General, it was
called to appear before the Govern-
ment in council to answer for its
conduct, and, practically without a
moment's notice or without affording
any opportunity for redressing the
grievance complained of, an order in
council was passed commanding it to
restore the separate school system
which it abolished in 1890 and which
the Privy Council held it had a constitu-
tional right so to do.

"How any Government, having re-
gard to the Provincial autonomy which
is essential to the success of our fed-
eral system, or to the consequences
which might arise from a refusal on
the part of Manitoba to comply with
this order, could think of issuing such
a mandate as the order dated 'Govern-
ment House, 21st March, 1895,' is more
than I can conceive. How like sub-
poena to appear before a public magis-
trate to answer to some criminal in-
document are the following words of
the order: 'Whereas the Lieutenant
Governor of the Province of Manitoba
for the time being, and the Legislature
of the said Province, and all persons
whom it may concern, the Dominion
Government and government themselves ac-
cordingly.'

"INVESTIGATE THE FACTS
"The answer of Manitoba to this
mandate was calm and dignified. 'We
think we have done no wrong,' they
said; 'but, to clear away all doubt, let
the matter in dispute between us be
investigated, and, in any case, let there
be no judgment till after the case is
tried.' To this reasonable request
what was the response? A second in-
document, containing a threat that if
Manitoba did not redress the grievance
of the minority, remedial legisla-
tion would be introduced at the next
session of Parliament, based on the
judgment of the Privy Council and the
remedial order previously passed.

"Notwithstanding all this, the Gov-
ernment of Manitoba, twelve days be-
fore the last session of the House of
Commons, again offered to submit the
whole question to the joint investiga-
tion in the hope that a settlement
might be arrived at. But all in vain.
On the 2nd of January, 1895, the House
of Commons met, and the Governor-
General, in his speech from the throne,
promised that the remedial bill would
be submitted, and from that time un-
til prorogation the whole course of the
Government in connection with the bill
showed its utter ignorance of the sit-
uation and its recklessness in attempt-
ing to force upon Parliament a meas-
ure so repugnant to the people of
Manitoba, and so repugnant also to
the better judgment, I believe, of the
whole people of the Dominion. So
much for the incapacity of the Gov-
ernment in dealing with a constitu-
tional question of immense importance
to the whole country.

"Then look at the vacillation of the
Government in dealing with the griev-
ances complained of by the minority.
You will remember that the remedial
order was dated the 21st of March,
1895. In that order it was adjudged
and declared that Manitoba should
restore to the minority the privileges
enjoyed by them prior to the passing
of the school act of 1890. On the 27th
of July, that is, four months after this
peremptory remedial order was issued
and all sundry called upon to
govern themselves accordingly, an-
other order was passed intimating that
it was not necessary that 'Provincial
legislation be mutually satisfactory
should follow the exact lines of the
first remedial order,' and, in express-
ing the hope that a middle course will
commend itself to the local authorities
so that federal action may be un-
necessary.

"Now, why this abandonment of the
remedial order so suddenly? Is it not
evident from this change of face that
the Government felt that it had called
upon Manitoba to do more than was
required by the judgment of the Privy
Council? If the object of the Govern-
ment was to protect the rights of the
minority, which it was their duty to do
under the constitution, why sacrifice
these rights and accept a 'middle
course' which might mean little or
nothing?

"AN INDEFINITE COURSE.
"Now, for the third change of front.
Parliament met on the 2nd of January
last for the special purpose of passing
remedial legislation. The Government
had ample time to consider the situa-
tion. On the 25th of February the re-
medial bill was introduced and read
were the provisions which were so
strongly insisted upon in the remedial
order of the 21st of March previous?
Manitoba was commanded to restore
the separate schools of which the
minority had been deprived. Did the
bill propose to restore them? Well, in
certain respects it did, but in many
but far short of the conditions contain-
ed in the remedial order. But that was
not all. Under the influence of Sir
Donald Smith, who wished to restore
the remedial bill, as well as the re-
medial order was to be thrown over-
board, and a conference with the Gov-
ernment of Manitoba held at Winnipeg
a fourth proposition was made, less ob-
jectionable from Manitoba stand-

point, I admit, but very different from
the imperious request of the original
order.

"I am not objecting for the moment
to the changes made by the Govern-
ment in the short period of twelve
months, although four different reme-
dial orders in one year on the same
question require a good deal of politi-
cal agility; but what I want to show is
the utter want of statesmanship which
such vacillation establishes. We were
involved in a sort of political war with
Manitoba. First she is called upon to
do so and so, then something else, and
again and again something else. No
wonder little progress was made. No
wonder Parliament spied the remedial
bill out of its mouth as something too
distasteful to be swallowed, seeing that
those who prepared it could not agree
three months at a time as to what was
best to do.

"Now, does not this action of the
Government prove conclusively that
from start to finish their course was
indefensible? Had they approach-
ed the question as grave of
officers of State should approach a
question of such vast importance,
would they not have opened negotia-
tions with Manitoba at the very outset
and sought for some modus vivendi
whereby justice could be done the mi-
nority, without the risk of such ap-
peals to passion and prejudice as are
inevitable under the existing condition
of things? In fact, do not the four
different conditions on which they at-
tempted a settlement clearly prove that
they should have acted on Mr. Lan-
gford's suggestion from the outset, and
inquired into the facts of the case be-
fore issuing any remedial order at
all? Had they done this by a com-
petent and high-minded commission-
er, we never would have had a remedial
order at all, but instead of it, I am
confident, we would have had such a
settlement by Manitoba as would have
satisfied the minority and would have
saved the country from the poison-
ous rhetoric of the demagogue and the
zealot. Were I a Catholic I would con-
demn the Government in the strongest
terms for its blundering and bung-
ling which, so far, has resulted only in
disappointment and anxiety. Nothing
could have been worse managed. The
arrogance and bravado which led to
the slaughter of the flower of Scottish
chivalry at Flanders was no worse than
the purposeless and divided councils
which preceded the defeat of the reme-
dial bill. We had three Ministers
boasting over it in July, 1895—only one
having the courage of his convictions,
and he left the party in disgust. We
had seven Ministers bolting on its
march six months after, but they
returned to the traitors' nest, where
they were mouthing. All the while the
bill for which they were so solicitous
was being discredited, and when they
summoned up courage to introduce it
it was doomed to defeat. No wonder it
was buried at the dead of night by
its sorrowing parents, whose crocodile
tears were the only evidence that if
they were not humane, they could at
least simulate the usual signs of hu-
manity.

"RIGHTS OF THE MINORITY.
"As a Protestant, I must also pre-
sent against the vacillating course
pursued by the Government. Nothing
can more seriously prejudice the future
of this Dominion than the unreasonable
strife of religious intolerance. As re-
specting the majority of the people
of Canada it is our incumbent duty to
be considerate to the minority, wheth-
er that minority is great or small.
The Roman Catholics are fellow-citizens
with us, their prosperity as well as
our rights, and in any sense an en-
croachment upon it is as much our bound-
en duty to have respect for these
rights and defend them as if the griev-
ance were our own. In the Province
of Ontario public peace and unity can-
not be promoted, nor anywhere else, by
the destruction of property belonging
to the union of religious and secular
instruction is a matter of conse-
quence. In every Province of the Do-
minion, in some form or another, the
views in this regard have been re-
spected. The Privy Council held that
the school act of 1890 inflicted a griev-
ance upon them that grievance should
be redressed. I believe the Province
of Manitoba is prepared to redress it.
I believe it cannot be redressed in
any other way as effectually, and
I believe the attempt should not
be made to redress it in any
other way until it is clearly seen
that the Government of Manitoba
is not prepared to carry out in spirit
as well as in letter the judgment of
the Privy Council. It will be time
enough to pass remedial legislation
when it is found on due investigation
of the whole question that the Legis-
lature of Manitoba declines within a
reasonable time to grant such proper
redress to the minority as will afford
substantial relief for the grievance
complained of.

"Have we any reason to hope that
relief can be obtained in this way? I
think the answer to this inquiry is all-
conclusive. The population of Mani-
toba consists largely of the over-
flow of the other Provinces of the Do-
minion, especially from the Province
of Ontario. Politically I believe the
majority of Manitoba is distinctly Lib-
eral. The policy of the Liberal party
both in Canada and Great Britain has
furnished an unbroken record of sym-
pathy to minorities. Of this fact every
page of English history furnishes
abundant evidence, from the time of
the Catholic Emancipation Act down
to the present day. The readiness of
the Government of Manitoba, an-
nounced specifically at four different
times, twice by the Government in
order of council and twice by the
Legislature, to consider the com-
plaints of the minority, is an assur-
ance in advance of their friendly in-
tentions. To agree to an inquiry and
to refuse to accept the results of such
an inquiry, would be a breach of faith
inconceivable on the part of the Gov-
ernment of any Province. I understand
that even under the present act in lo-
calities where the Catholic population
is in the majority they are permitted
to exercise many of the privileges
which they possessed under former
legislation.

"THE LESSONS OF HISTORY.
"Taking a broad and comprehensive
view of this matter, and bearing in
mind the interests of the Dominion
rather than party or political exigen-
cies, what is the duty of the electors
of Canada at this moment, irrespec-
tive of race or creed? What has been
the policy of Imperial statesmen in the
settlement of questions of great nation-
al importance? Who does not know
that in all matters of dispute, great
or small, conciliation is more effec-
tive than coercion. The assertion
of constitutional rights has to be con-
sidered in the light of the probable
consequences involved. Lord North
was within his constitutional rights in
imposing the Stamp Act and a duty on
tea imported into the American colonies,
but his injudicious assertion of
that right cost the British Empire
half a continent. Charles I. was
within his constitutional rights, ac-
cording to usage, in assessing John
Hampden 1 shilling and 6 pence for
the maintenance of the royal treasury,
but that assessment cost him his king-
dom and his head. The fathers of

Confederation were within their rights
in advising the British House of Com-
mons to include the Province of Nova
Scotia in the Confederation of 1867
without consulting the Provincial
Legislature, but the effect of that act
was to create a feeling of dissatisfaction
which has not yet subsided. Let us
not forget the lessons of history, and
while bearing in mind that the highest
patriotism demands the fullest
measure of justice to every citizen,
we must also learn that rashness is
not statesmanship, but that they only
are capable of governing a country like
Canada who are possessed of the qual-
ities attributed by Tennyson to 'the
advisers of our beloved Queen:

"And statesmen at her council met,
Who knew the season when to take
Occasion by the hand and make
The bounds of freedom wider yet.

"By shaping some august decree,
Which kept her throne unshaken
still,
Broad-based upon her people's will,
And compass'd by the inviolate sea."

Dervishes Defeated

In a Sharp Skirmish With the
Egyptian Troops.

The Situation at Buluwayo Re-
mains Unchanged.

Dreadful Storm in Japan—350 Fish-
men Probably Drowned.

Prerogative Prisoners' Sentences Further
Modified—May Day Riots in Vic-
na—Princess Beatrice Made
a Governor.

GREAT DROUGHT.
London, May 2.—A dispatch from
Simla says: The distress owing to
the drought in the northwest prov-
inces, is unexampled. It is estimated
that 200,000 persons are employed on
relief work.

A PRINCESS FOR GOVERNOR.
London, May 2.—Princess Beatrice
(Princess Henry of Battenburg),
daughter of the Queen, has been ap-
pointed Governor of the Isle of
Wight.

PLAQUE IN HONG KONG.
Hong Kong, May 2.—The plague is
becoming serious. There have been
eighteen cases in one day, and the
total up to April 6 was 338.

DERVISHES DEFEATED.
Cairo, May 2.—The Egyptian troops
under Major Murdoch have had a
sharp skirmish with a force of 1,200
Dervishes near Akasheh. The Der-
vishes were defeated with much loss.

DEATH-DEALING STORM.
London, May 2.—A violent storm
swept over Central Japan during the
night of April 13, and a place called
Matsure, in the Province of Izumo,
55 fishing boats were swept out to
sea, and nothing is yet known as to
the fate of their crews, numbering
350.

THE PORTE MUST PAY.
London, May 2.—France and Italy,
through their representatives at
Constantinople, have demanded of the
Porte an indemnity for the loss of
life of citizens of those countries and
the destruction of property belong-
ing to Catholic missions during the
recent massacres in Anatolia.

LIBERAL ELECTION.
London, May 2.—An election was
held in the north division of Aber-
deen yesterday to fill the vacancy in
the House of Commons caused by the
resignation of Dr. William Alexander
Hunter (Liberal). The vote stood:
Mr. Pirie (Liberal), 2,900; Tom Mann
(Labour), 2,475. Dr. Hunter received
4,156 votes, against 608 cast for J. L. Mahon
(Labour).

THE LONDON BABY MURDERS.
London, May 2.—The supply
of bodies of children thrown into the
Thames by Mrs. Ann Dyer seems in-
exhaustible. Another baby was fish-
ed up yesterday, making the seventh
so far. During the dragging opera-
tions a baby's head was found float-
ing up to the surface. The police are
now examining the bottom of Clap-
ton's pool for the bodies of the other
babies, and many more bodies, it is believed,
will be found.

MAY DAY IN LONDON.
London, May 2.—Some hundreds of
unemployed workers held a meeting
in Hyde Park yesterday afternoon
and passed the international social-
istic resolution to overthrow the sys-
tem of centralization of capital. The
speakers were Louise Michel, M. S.
Emile, Socialist member of the
French Chamber of Deputies; Mrs.
Marx and Dr. Aveling. The prin-
cipal workingmen's demonstration will
be held on Sunday.

BURDEN ROBBERS IDENTIFIED.
London, May 2.—Turner and Dun-
lop, the Burden diamond robbers,
were again arraigned in the Bow
Street Police Court yesterday. Mr.
and Mrs. Burden, of New York, iden-
tified the jewelry and also recognized
the prisoners as having been in their
employ. Mr. Burden said he be-
lieved the jewelry stolen from his
house by Turner and Dunlop to be
identical with the exception that a few
small diamonds were missing from
their settings. The prisoners were re-
mandered for one week.

BELAGUERED BULUWAYO.
Cape Town, May 2.—Advice from
Buluwayo says the situation there is
unchanged. Articles of food are dearer
there than was ever known before,
and are steadily increasing in price as
they are in scarcity.

Cecil Rhodes, Capt. Duncan,
who is commanding a wing of the
forces around Buluwayo, declaring
that the effect of the Matabele rising
to take to the country a railway
two years sooner than had been ex-
pected.
It is reported here that the Matab-
eles are in command of the Salisbury
road. It is probable the dispatch adds
that the enemy have learned of Cecil
Rhodes' advance from Fort Salisbury
toward Buluwayo.
A Matabele deserter, who arrived
here yesterday, stated that acute dis-
sentiment prevails among the Matab-
eles, and that the remainder of the
tribe threatens to wipe out the Sa-
kuti, Imbezo and Ingo regiments. In
addition, the Imbezo are threatening
their god for not having fulfilled his

Ayer's Argument.

If there is any reason why you should use
any sarsaparilla, there is every reason why you
should use Ayer's. When you take sarsaparilla
you take it to cure disease; you want to be cured
as quickly as possible and as cheaply as possible.
That is why you should use Ayer's; it cures
quickly and cheaply—and it cures to stay. Many
people write us: "I would sooner have one
bottle of Ayer's Sarsaparilla than three of any
other kind." A druggist writes that "one bottle
of Ayer's will give more benefit than six of any
other kind." If one bottle of Ayer's will do the
work of three it must have the strength of three
at the cost of one. There's the point in a nut-
shell. It pays every way to use

Ayer's Sarsaparilla

Send for the "Carebook."
200 pages, 16 half-tones, bound in Royal Holland. Free.
Address: J. C. Ayer Co., Lowell, Mass.

Housekeepers, Attention!

W O U L D like to have you call and see what we are offering
just at the present time of housecleaning. You will likely
want a Corner Wardrobe, Gent's Chiffonier, Oak Book-
case or Corner China Cabinet. We have a large and very nice stock
SOLID OAK BEDROOM SETS, cheval glass, brass handles,
castors on all, for \$15; the cheapest set in Canada today. Solid Oak
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\$7 50; half dozen Solid Oak High Back Dining, stuffed leather seats,
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YOUR CHANCE.

N. B. Sole Agents High Grade Falcon

Bicycles. Catalogue on Application.

John Ferguson & Sons

174 to 180 KING STREET - - - - LONDON.

LABOR TROUBLES.
Toronto Stone-Cutters on Strike—Bridge-
builders and Miners Quit Work.
Toronto, May 2.—The stone-cutters
went on strike yesterday morning for an hour
or so, and then ceased. At a meeting
of their union subsequently it was re-
solved to strike, in sympathy with the
builders and bricklayers' laborers. This
will affect several hundred additional
men, about twelve hundred in all. They
expect help from the International As-
sociation of Master Builders' Union, said
that the employing builders would take no
action beyond refusing to comply with
the demand of the men. The building
business is slack just now.
Indianapolis, May 2.—The four thou-
sand miners in the bituminous mines
of Indiana stopped working last night
and it is expected that there will be a long
suspension of operations.

THE RAND PRISONERS.

Most of Them Have Their Sentences
Still Further Modified.

London, May 2.—The Times this
morning prints a dispatch from Cape
Town saying that advice received
there from Pretoria show that the in-
terdict upon the property of the
members of the Johannesburg reform
committee has been removed, except in
the cases of Mr. Leonard and Dr.
Wolff. The Boer progressive party
appeared to be unanimously in favor
of leniency towards the prisoners. They
consider that banishment and a small
fine would be sufficient punishment.
Judge Gregorick, who sentenced the
prisoners, was flouted upon his arrival
at Bloemfontein on his return from
the Transvaal.

THE DEAD SHAH.

Brussels, May 2.—A fight occurred at
Chatelet, Halmaut, Belgium, between
the Socialists, who were celebrating
May Day, and a number of policemen.
The policemen were worsted until they
were reinforced. Several were injured.
Vienna, May 2.—Late in the after-
noon a large number of workmen and
Socialists gathered about the Reichs-
rath building and hoisted the Govern-
ment. Frequently the cry of "Down
with Baden!" (the Prince Minister)
could be heard. The mob then entered
the great park, the Prater, where they
acted in a riotous manner. The police
attempted to restore order, but the
rioters turned on them and drove
them away, hurling stones and other
missiles at them. Several policemen
were quite badly hurt in the melee.
Troops were called for, and were
promptly on the scene. They made
short work of the rioters, and quickly
cleared the Prater and the streets in
the vicinity where the mob attempted
to linger. Fifteen of the rioters were
injured and many arrests were made.

THE DEAD SHAH.

Teheran, May 2.—Immediately after
the Shah of Persia was shot yester-
day he was carried to his carriage and
conveyed to the palace in this city.
There he was attended by Dr. Tera-
gan, his chief physician, and others,
who were hastily sent for. But, in
spite of their combined efforts his
Majesty expired soon after, at 4 p.m.
The assassin, who was promptly ar-
rested, is said to be a Sayyid, from Kerman,
or from the province of Yazd. It is
believed that the murderer had ac-
complished his purpose by the Sa-
kuti, Imbezo and Ingo regiments. In
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Windsor Salt for Table and
Dairy, Purest and Best.