

age of fifty-one, he was in the Bar but not of it, for he never held more than three briefs. What, therefore, were his professional claims?

Had Archbishop Walsh been alive he would before the last appointment to the Supreme Court was made, have written to those who asserted their influence on Chief Justice A——'s behalf, and would not have hesitated telling them the obligations the Government was under to me.

My letter was not intended to imply, nor do I think it suggests that I considered Archbishop Walsh's action was determined by a desire to secure my professional or social advancement. My social status in the community, as the Archbishop well knew—and as you must have been aware—required no advancement.

Archbishop Walsh's first concern was the welfare of the Catholics of this Province, or he never would have interfered in the Manitoba affair. And his principal reason for intervening was because he thought the embroglio brought about, then existing in Manitoba, might react on the Catholics here. Had it not been for this fear he would have maintained that the French in Manitoba should settle in their own way and on their own terms a matter in which they had become embroiled. For, as he said, had a similar state of affairs been brought about in Ontario no Bishop in Quebec would have raised his voice or intervened on behalf of the Irish Catholics here.

I sent you a copy of my letter to the Archbishop, dated 25th February, 1897, in which I urged his interposition because of the ferment in which the country would be kept, "to the great detriment of the Catholics of Ontario, upon whom these troubles have always reacted."

That he had the utmost confidence in my judgment regarding the School matter is attested by the fact that he sent to me a copy of his Report to the Ablegate (in which is included a copy of Archbishop Begin's), for use at any time I deemed it necessary for his vindication in doing what he had done.

Looking back at the toil and labour undergone, and at what I have accomplished, while others who would have destroyed what I was sowing are being rewarded, one is almost forced to repent himself at being so successful in the cause of the so-called Liberalism.

I remain,

The Honorable

CHARLES FITZPATRICK,

Minister of Justice,

Ottawa.

Yours sincerely,

HUGH MACMAHON.