

THE HERALD

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Editor & Proprietor.

At a meeting held in London on the 10th to further the cause of protection in Great Britain several resolutions were adopted...

THE fondest methods are being pursued by glib agents to procure affidavits against government officials to bring charges against them.

THE public has been deceived by the glib. This is shown by the lengths to which the office-seekers are forced to go to make charges against officials.

At a public meeting held in Montreal a few evenings ago, the following resolutions were passed: "Whereas, the rights of the Catholic minority of Manitoba to have separate schools is guaranteed by the constitution and has been recognized by the Judicial Committee of Her Majesty's Privy Council; Whereas, the Conservative Government frankly accepted the task of enforcing the Constitution, which had been violated by the Greenway Government, resented and to that end adopted the Order-in-Council known as the Remedial Order, and submitted to Parliament a Remedial Bill. Whereas, the Liberal party in the Province of Quebec professed that this law did not go far enough, and whereas that party promised to hold an investigation into the question and to hear the claims of the minority, and also made a solemn pledge to render full and entire justice to the minority by consulting with them, if possible, and failing that, by a remedial measure; Whereas, violating all those solemn promises, the Laurier Government, with Mr. McCarthy and his committee at Brandon, but without consulting the minority, has accepted from the Greenway Government a pretended settlement, which, far from rendering to the minority the rights of which they have been deprived, accords infinitely less than what would have been accorded by the Remedial Bill."

Resolved, that such action on the part of Mr. Laurier's Government constitutes a flagrant violation of the constitution of the province of Quebec during the last election, and does not in any way restore to the minority their rights as guaranteed by the constitution and as laid down by the Privy Council. That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to the press and to the Conservative Clubs of the provinces of Quebec.

When the Morning Organ first raised its hue and cry against the proposal to bring St. Joseph's Convent School under the jurisdiction of the City school board, it could not find words strong enough to denounce everything in connection therewith, that had the semblance of secrecy. It laid down the axiom that "where there is secrecy there is danger."

In the name of "intelligence" and "enlightenment" this "Catholic" avails himself of the opportunity thus afforded him, to freely blackguard his neighbors. It is difficult to believe that the description who masquerades in the Morning Organ of the 5th inst. really is, or ever was, even a nominal Catholic. It is true that there has scarcely ever been an occasion when an effort was made to obtain a measure of justice for Catholics, that a traitor has not appeared on the scene. This is a most deplorable admission to make; but all know that it is too true. Still the proportion of traitors to the loyal and true is very much less than one in twenty, the ratio at which they started out. Admitting all this, it seems almost impossible to conceive that any Catholic, no matter how wretched, could fall so low; could so far disgrace his religion and the name of his God, as to stoop to such utter depths of degradation as to act the sneak, as in this case, and seek a pat on the back from the editor of the Morning Organ. But there is no one who will fall so low as a bad Catholic, and the loftier the height from which he falls, the more lamentable and deplorable his disgrace.

DURING the past week, the Morning Organ devoted a considerable amount of its space to a consideration of the habits of the "lobster." No more appropriate theme could engage the attention of the genius who presides over its editorial department, as he himself has been attempting, with the best grace possible, to perform the lobster act. Obligated to swallow the dose of unpalatable facts that we presented to him in our last issue, his digestion has evidently been very bad ever since. As a matter of fact, he seems to have been in a semi-comatose state, and when occasionally aroused from his lethargy the first thoughts that occur to him naturally refer to what put him to sleep. All at once he begins to strop out his choice epithets, such as "creating a privileged class in our midst," "creating all the deceptions of discussion," etc. This reminds one of the occasion on which Mr. Pickwick, with his companions, went on the shooting expedition, and having indulged too freely was left asleep in a wheelbarrow. When he woke up from his snooze, the first words he uttered were "cold punch." With pharisaical sanctimoniousness, the editor of the Morning Organ laments the lack of "the broadening and enlightening influences of better schools in certain quarters." Can it be possible he really understands what genuine education means; or thinks he is in possession of the merest tittle of such a commodity? Does he think that the discrepancy which he calls names and apply insulting epithets to his neighbors furnishes any evidence of education? Does he suppose that his reiterated appeals to the lower instincts and baser passions of his readers; his frequent and baseless assertions regarding deep-laid plots by high ecclesiastical authority; "creating a privileged class in our midst," and that "this is a Protestant country," will be mistaken by anybody for the product of a refined, tolerant and an educated mind?

The Morning Organ, in its issue of Friday last, contains a short article regarding "nuns as teachers," that manifests about as much animosity as could well be compressed into the same amount of space. The writer of this article, under review, thinks that nuns are not fit to teach in "public schools," on account of "their cloistered life, their vows of perpetual celibacy, poverty and obedience." He thinks pupils "can hardly receive the best practical training from those so wholly separated from the world and its activities—those whose lives are a protest against marriage." As will readily be seen, the principal disqualification of the nuns to discharge the duties of public school teachers, according to the writer of the article in question, is that they are not married and never will be. Without going into an argument of the case, at all, it appears to us his assertions are refuted by the very fact that all, or nearly all the female teachers in the public schools are unmarried. Nor is there wanting presumptive evidence that some of them never will be. That being so, is the writer in question prepared to say that all these ladies are unfit to teach a public school? If he is not prepared to take this view of the question, are we to assume that he takes it for granted that most of the female teachers in the public schools hope to be married some day, and that this hope constitutes their highest qualification for the discharge of the duties devolving upon them as public school teachers? Let us, for argument's sake, assume this latter view of the case, and see where it will land us. It is altogether likely that the greater number of female teachers in the public schools hope, some day to

be married for "hope springs eternal in the human heart." Now, we are informed, that the negotiations preceding marriage, not infrequently, continue for a considerable length of time, and are seldom brought to completion with as much promptitude and in as emphatic language as is employed in a bill of exchange or a policy of insurance. In consequence of all this it is not unlikely that a very considerable amount of distraction might be involved. Are we to suppose that this would enhance the value of the services of a female teacher in a public school? In plainer language, is it unreasonable to suppose that the teacher who has her mind fixed on marriage is likely to become more or less careless about her duties? To use somewhat familiar terminology, would the writer in question consider that young ladies addicted to flirtation, would be better qualified to discharge their duties as teachers of our public schools? We have, perhaps, given this phase of the question more consideration than it deserved; more, indeed, than we intended in the first place. Now, if we consider the usual qualifications for the business and institute a comparison. In the first place, many of the nuns have been teachers in the public schools before entering the religious life; consequently these, at least, would be equally well qualified with any other public school teachers. Teaching is the life business of the nuns; to this they have voluntarily devoted themselves, and they do not look forward to anything else. Apart from their scholastic qualification, they have the additional qualification, that teaching with them is a conscientious duty. Will anyone presume to say that because they have voluntarily chosen poverty, chastity and obedience, in order to perfect their own lives, they are thereby rendered less fitted to draw out and develop the intellectual and moral qualities of those entrusted to them? That is education, as we understand it. The whole question is reduced to this. Female teachers in the public schools, for the most part, engage in the profession full time as they enter the matrimonial state, or perhaps pass into some other more lucrative sphere of action. In either case teaching is made a stepping stone to something else. On the other hand the nuns, equally well, and in many cases infinitely better qualified, from a scholastic point of view, engage in teaching as their life work and with the highest ideal of what is expected of them, from a conscientious point of view. We submit that anyone incapable of appreciating the superiority of the nuns as teachers should be presented with a pair of long ears.

The Bishop's Proposal Rejected. An adjourned meeting of the City School Board was held on Monday evening last, at which the proposal of His Lordship, Bishop McDonald, relative to the taking over of St. Joseph's Convent School, was considered. There was a full attendance of the members of the board, and representatives of the press were also present. The discussion was opened by Dr. Taylor, who was most vehement in his opposition to making any concession to the Bishop or any other Catholic. The intensity of his opposition was manifested, not only in his language; but in his very attitude, in the tremor of his body and the quaver of his voice. He said he had given the matter considerable study, and the more he studied it the stronger became his opposition. "People of strong, Protestant tendencies," he said, "have a moral antipathy to anything of a Roman Catholic tendency," and he gave ample proof that he was a practical illustration of his axiom. He had gone to Halifax, in the quest of evidence to bury up the ground he was taking in this matter. He went to the schools conducted by the nuns, and what did he see? On horrors! "I displayed with all the insignia of the Catholic faith," that settled the Dr.; after that it was useless to talk to him of entertaining the Bishop's proposal.

Mr. McLeod treated the question in a very gingerly manner. He said he was not prepared to go as far as Dr. Taylor. He said he did not think nuns should be disqualified because they were nuns. Under certain conditions, he might be disposed to engage a member of the Congregation to teach. Provided that such and such schools existed and provided that such and such vacancies occurred in these schools, he might not be opposed to engaging one to fill such vacancies. His main objection to the engaging of nuns in the case under consideration was that the board would be confined to select from a very limited number. He did not know how they would class, 1st, 2nd, or

3rd. First class teachers should be provided for that school. Mr. Handran pointed out that Mr. McLeod and the other members of the board need have no uneasiness regarding the small number of nuns from which they would be asked to select the required number of teachers. The number would not be confined to those nuns now at St. Joseph's; but other nuns would be brought, and the board would have the right to reject any one of them. He assured the members of the board that they would be well qualified. He then pointed out the injustice to which the Catholics had been subjected during twenty years. They had saved \$25,000 of public money, by supporting these schools and he thought they were entitled to some measure of redress. He did not think our school law differed materially from that of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and in those Provinces convent schools had been taken over.

Mr. Archibald Kennedy was the next speaker. The very thought of employing nuns as teachers seems to have somewhat the same effect upon him as the proverbial red cloth has on a bull. After inveighing against the nuns and describing, as propositors, the proposition to take over St. Joseph's Convent at a rental of \$600, he wound up by saying he "put down his foot against having anything to do with the Bishop or his schools." After such ponderous logic and sublime reasoning as this, one would almost imagine the question was settled. Mr. J. B. McDonald pointed out that Mr. Kennedy was slightly astray in his remarks regarding the rental of St. Patrick's School. He could not see why any objection should be made to paying \$750 rent for that school, when the board was paying \$1600 to the Methodist body for the Upper Priory Street School, before it became the property of the school board. As regarded the employment of nuns as teachers, he saw no reason why they should not be so employed. He thought Dr. Taylor's fears were altogether groundless. Many Protestant gentlemen, some of them of the very best families in the land, attended the Convent school, and he defied Dr. Taylor or any one else to prove that their religious belief had in any way been interfered with, or that they had been "contaminated," as they might please to say. Some of those nuns were teachers, and first-class teachers at that, before they became nuns. He was satisfied that they were quite competent to pass for any class. It was all right, according to those who opposed the Bishop's proposal, that \$25,000 of public money had been saved; but when a redress was asked for it must not be granted. Because a teacher wears a particular garb, was that any reason why she should not be engaged to teach?

Hon. Mr. Farquharson treated the question in a very diplomatic manner. The proposal of His Lordship had been before the board some years ago and been rejected. He regretted that it had come up again, but he saw no reason for voting differently from what he did when the question was up for consideration the first time. He said the nuns were good teachers; he had sent his children to the convent to learn music. But he would vote against the motion. He said he knew there were Protestants in this City, who would not send their children to a school taught by nuns. The motion of Mr. Handran, seconded by Mr. J. B. McDonald, that the Bishop's proposal be adopted, was then put and lost on the following vote: Yeas, Messrs. Handran and McDonald, Nays, Messrs. Kennedy, Farquharson, Taylor and McLeod. Mr. Blanchard, being chairman, did not vote. Not satisfied with having the Bishop's proposal rejected by an adverse vote of the board, Mr. Kennedy showed his animosity, or his ignorance, possibly, a combination of both, by animadverting on the course pursued by His Lordship in bringing the question up at this particular time. He would very likely have made a lamentable exhibition of himself, had he not been called to order.

So far as the Protestant members of the school board, who voted solidly against the Bishop's proposal, are concerned, it is quite evident that not one of them ever intended to do anything else. The strongest arguments are lost on such persons; it was simply lost of time to point out to them the justice and equity of the Bishop's request. It mattered not to them that \$25,000 of the public funds had been saved, in consequence of the Catholics supporting their own schools, while paying taxes, for the support of the public schools; it mattered not that every

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regulation of the school board and every provision of the school act would be strictly complied with, had the proposal been adopted; it mattered not that the board would have a large number of the very best of teachers to select from. No, those men were bound to oppose any proposition that would permit the nuns to become teachers of our public schools. In view of these facts, it is difficult to understand why so much noise was made about the matter in the Morning Organ; why such an attempt was made to stir up feeling and arouse the bitterest prejudices of the community. Was it a "deep-laid plot" arranged by the Protestant members of the board and the crew of the Morning Organ, with the view of diverting public attention from the merits of the case; so that when prejudice would be aroused; reason obscured; these members bound to escape the criticism their action would deserve, and be let down easy? The Morning Organ hopes "this will be the last heard of it for years to come." Indeed; very little would have been heard of it, had not the Organ "scented" it in the distance, and had it not obtruded the matter on public attention in such a sensational and such an insulting manner. We may be very sure, however, that had the school board adopted the Bishop's proposal; the Organ would by no means permit "it" to be the last heard of "it."

What a howl it would then raise! how its appeals to prejudice and bigotry would be continued and intensified! But now the injustice to Catholics is to continue, therefore the Organ is satisfied.

different conferences for the relief of the distressed. All the meetings of the congress, except the last one, were held in the hall of the Patrimoine of St. Vincent de Paul. The congress opened on Sunday morning with a solemn High Mass in the Chapel of the Patrimoine, and a sermon by Mgr. Bisio, Bishop of Rimoni. During Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, sessions were held, when papers were read and questions appertaining to the good of the Society were discussed. Mr. N. C. Hamsel, President of the Superior Council, called the Congress to order, and Mgr. Hamsel, of Laval University, was chosen President of the Congress. The delegates were received and addressed at the Archbishop's residence, on Sunday afternoon, by Mgr. Marois, Vicar General and Administrator. In the Archbishop's absence, on Monday morning the members of the Congress, to the number of one hundred and six, went on a pilgrimage to the famous Shrine of St. Anne de Beau Pre. On Monday evening the Orphan boys of the Patrimoine gave a musical and literary entertainment in honor of the members of the Congress. On Tuesday morning there was a general Communion of the members at the chapel of the Patrimoine, a session by Mgr. Dr. Mathieu of Laval University and the blessing and erecting of a statue of St. Vincent de Paul. In the afternoon a visit was paid to the Mother house of the Sisters of Charity, where most interesting military exercises were given by the orphan boys of that institution and an exhibition of callisthenics by the orphan girls. At 8 o'clock, Tuesday evening, the closing exercises of the Congress were held in the Basilica. A report of the workings of the society in Canada for the last fifty years was read, as also a report of the proceedings and the resolutions of the Congress. Then followed a sermon in English by Rev. Father McCarthy, Redemptorist, and a lesson in French by Very Rev. Mgr. Marois. Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and a grand Te Deum brought the service to a close. The grand Basilica was crowded, and the service was the grandest and most gorgeous that has ever been the good fortune of the writer to witness.

Transatlantic Distances. (Montreal Gazette.) In another column we publish a table which has been prepared by Captain W. H. Smith, N. B., board of trade, and which is of considerable importance in view of the discussion which has recently taken place as to the terminal ports of the fast Atlantic service both in Canada and Great Britain. The results are exceedingly interesting. The shortest distance is between Sydney, C. B., and Loch Ryan—only 2,631 miles, but, as we have already pointed out by the Liverpool Journal of Commerce, a steamship line is not like a railway, and cannot run the risk of creating its own terminals. It must adopt the established lines of trade and take advantage of terminal facilities actually provided, both for freight and passenger traffic. Liverpool has spent over \$60,000 on its docks and harbors, it has good hotels and affords rapid communication with all parts of the United Kingdom. The inconvenience that used to be suffered owing to the distance between the dock and the railway stations have been done away with, and whatever place may be chosen as the port of call for mail purposes, there is no doubt that for freight and passenger traffic Liverpool offers most advantages. Its nearness to the north of England, the best market for our perishable dairy products, is a great point in its favor. From Liverpool, according to Captain Smith's table, the distance is to Sydney, C. B. 2,981 Quebec via N. Ireland and Belle Isle 2,433 Quebec via N. Ireland and C. Race. 2,901 Halifax summer route 2,450 Halifax winter route 2,818 St. John, N. B. summer route 2,700 St. John, N. B. winter route 2,843 Portland, Me. 2,765 Boston, Mass. 2,807 New York—no steamer route 2,816 Here, again, Sydney, C. B. easily takes the lead if distance only is taken into account, but the same reasons which sell for Liverpool against Loch Ryan are decisive in favor of Quebec or Montreal for summer sailings. The maritime province people have very handsomely acknowledged this, and have set up no claim for the summer route. Most of the traffic for the fast Atlantic service must come from Montreal, or west of it, and the addition of the railway and sailing distances (in marine miles) make the superiority of the St. Lawrence route clear so far as summer sailings are concerned:— Montreal to Liverpool 2,773 Via Quebec 2,118 Via Halifax 2,107 As to the winter service, there is not so much to choose. Montreal to Portland, Me. 2,658 Montreal to Liverpool 2,789 8,047 Montreal to St. John 4,181 St. John to Liverpool 2,813 8,261 Montreal to Halifax 2,997 Halifax to Liverpool 2,819 5,970 This would give Portland a distinct advantage if there were a direct service, but the boats now running call at Halifax, which makes a considerable difference:— Montreal to Portland 2,958 Portland to Halifax 2,338 Halifax to Liverpool 2,619 8,213 This still gives Portland a slight advantage, but the Beaver line claim to have delivered goods in Montreal and the west as quickly as the lines using Portland. The importance of building

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Canadian instead of the interests need not be in this connection. The last laid down the principle ship companies receiving subsidies must use Canadian and Canadian ports. The principle has been accepted in present administration, application has been made the most important point by these figures is the point of distance enjoyed and other Canadian ports. York. This has not been to the mercantile world have been, although the course familiar to those acquainted with the St. Lawrence. In the shipping world, an authority very generally a distance from Liverpool to stated to be 2,855 miles, or less than that given for Captain Smith's route of Belle Isle, the route used all the summer sailings, the only 2,633 miles, an advantage with New York of 472 miles may be obtained in the 1 distance, and not the taken, but Captain Smith, many years commode of fleet, is a practical man what he is talking about. "Most vessels which attempt the Atlantic world show a tances by their logs in course errors in navigation, but occasional stormy weather, ferring to my diary for several find these to Quebec and nearly correct." Both practically, no one can greater authority on this subject Captain Smith, and it is to first the correction given has be taken note of by those in trade routes, whether for commercial purposes. The tion of these figures may give Captain Smith a great trouble, and he is entitled to of the Canadian public for a laborious task which has gratifying results.

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