

(Continued from page 1).

that this assurance should be accepted for all it implies. But my own mind has been so much discomfited by the statements of the hon. Secretary of State; on the other hand, there are many rumors afloat about this prospective settlement, the news coming from Winnipeg are such that it appears to me to be my duty to indicate at this stage what, in the eyes of the minority, the solution of the question should be satisfactory.

The claims of said minority have been the object of many trials. At last it has been adjudged by the highest tribunal of the empire that we had grievances, and the grievances themselves have been determined by the same tribunal. Finally, His Excellency, the Governor-General in Council, sitting at a court of appeal, and as specially provided by the constitution to hear such cases, adopted the views of the Lords of the Privy Council, sitting as a court of appeal, on the petitions filed by the minority. In that final judgment the rights of the minority are once more determined. And in this connection I desire to remark that His Excellency, the Governor-General in Council, without ceasing to act under their ministerial responsibility, nevertheless sat in a judicial capacity, and the decision arrived at by them is, of its nature, a judgment to all intents and purposes, a final judgment to which there is no appeal. It cannot now be altered, modified, or withdrawn by any authority, government or parliament in Canada. Parliament may refuse to act upon it and reduce it to a dead letter, but it cannot alter it. Because, by that judgment, the minority which was a party to the case, has been vested with certain rights of which it cannot be deprived without its consent, like in any other judgment rendered between contesting parties. Imperial Parliament alone could, by legislation, affect that Remedial Order. That doctrine may seem bold at first sight, but my conviction is that it is sound doctrine. The grievances of the minority having been so determined, any settlement of the question, to be satisfactory, must be on the line of the judgments to which I have referred; nothing short of the indications and principles they contain could be accepted by the minority as a satisfactory settlement. In the second place, that settlement must be of a permanent character. These are features which must be borne in mind by the government in any effort they may make to arrive at the desired solution. Prompt and complete justice is required. It must strike everybody that those grievances have subsisted long enough. Law is in accord with good sense and justice to require that all grievances, and not only some of them, be removed, and that the remedy be not only a partial remedy, but an adequate remedy. The permanency of the settlement is due not only to the minority but to the country as well, so that the nation may have a rest at last and be no more agitated by such controversies, which necessarily hinder its progress.

(To be continued)

FATHER RITCHOT BECOMES A ROMAN PRELATE.

On Tuesday, the 13th inst., word was sent round to about fifty members of the clergy and laity that His Grace intended to surprise Father Ritchot, the venerable parish priest of St. Norbert, with the announcement that the Holy Father had named him Prothonotary Apostolic "ad instar," with the style and title of Monsignor. Friends were invited to foregather at St. Norbert, nine miles from Winnipeg, but not to breathe a word of the ultimate object of the collective visit. Meanwhile, two devoted ladies of St. Boniface, Mrs. Dubuc and Mrs. Lecompte, had gone thither and undertaken the catering for so large a company. Between four and five o'clock no less than ten carriages might have been seen winding, like a procession, through Fort Rouge. A little before six all the visitors had reached Father Ritchot's hospitable house, giving as an excuse for their numbers the Archbishop's first visit since his return from Rome. Fifty-two guests sat down to an admirably served dinner, after which they adjourned to the Convent Hall, where good singing and music by the pupils formed a fit setting for a most able lecture on "The Basilica of St. Peter in Rome" by the Rev. Dr. Beliveau. When all the programme had been gone through with, His Grace of St. Boniface rose to speak. Beginning by well-deserved and discriminating praise of Father Beliveau's lecture, he went on to congratulate the Grey Nuns on their success in the training of children, and then, thanking Rev. Father Ritchot for the great work he had done in this parish during the last thirty years, he gradually prepared, with consummate skill, the final announcement, which was received with prolonged applause by the large audience in the crowded hall. The venerable recipient of this great honor rose, and, without uttering a word, knelt down and bent low as if in atonement for what he deemed an undeserved dignity. Then, holding the papal commission in his hand and reverently kiss-

ing it, he said that, though he accepted the honor because His Grace had bestowed it on him as on a representative of the clergy, he would certainly have refused it had he been consulted beforehand. The confusion and self-abasement of the worthy priest were almost painfully apparent; and yet all the audience felt that His Grace had done well to overcome Father Ritchot's scruples by a well-managed surprise. Rev. Father Leduc read a touching address congratulating Monsignor Ritchot. Hon. Senator Berge spoke eloquently of the share Mr. Ritchot had in the framing of our constitution. Hon. Judge Dubuc also dilated feelingly on the paternal kindness of Father Ritchot who was ever the "guide, philosopher and friend" to struggling laymen. This most agreeable meeting closed by a few appropriate remarks from the Hon. J. E. P. Prendergast, Mayor of St. Boniface.

THE STEAMSHIP'S EARS.

New Device for Detecting the Proximity of Vessels.

The aurophone is the latest device with which the newest ocean liners are equipped. It consists of a brass box which fits over the masts and which has projecting from each end a broad-mouthed funnel. From this box, close to the funnels, two tubes like ordinary speaking tubes lead down the mast and through the main deck to the deck below. Inside of the box there is a complex arrangement of diaphragms and sound-boards, so placed that a sound will enter only one of the tubes when it is passing through the funnel on the opposite side of the box.

On the lower deck is an arrangement like an engine-room indicator, by which the box above may be turned round the mast, and directly under the indicator is a tell-tale compass. The man below places the tubes to his ears, where they are held in place by a cap. Unless the funnels above are pointing directly towards the sound which he wished to locate he will hear it only faintly, and in one ear, because one of the funnels being turned away from the sound the tube opposite does not operate. He then turns the indicator in the direction from which the sound appears to come, and when the funnel is pointing directly at the sound, it passes through the funnel and out of the other, putting both tubes in operation, and the operator hears the sound distinctly, and in both ears at once. He then glances at the indicator, and the point on the tell-tale at which it rests gives the exact bearing of the sound.

MYSTERIOUS PORTRAIT ON GLASS.

A curious phenomenon has been observed in a little country church in East Essex, at a place called Westley. In the neighborhood it is already referred to as the "Essex Miracle." It appears that a window at the side of the altar was glazed some thirty years ago with transparent glass. Twenty years later this glass was painted on the outside with ordinary paint, in order to prevent the glare of light from annoying the eyes of the rector. Within the last four months a face has slowly developed itself upon the surface of the glass. It is a bearded face, with straight features in profile and abundant hair, and recalls in the minds of traveled observers the well-known head of Christ by Leonardo da Vinci, which forms one of the popular attractions in the cathedral at Antwerp. It is impossible that any human agency can have been concerned in the production of this face, and the country people round about have come to the conclusion that it is a nineteenth century miracle. The fact of the matter probably is that it is an accident, and a very curious one, caused by the action of weather and time on the coating of paint which covers the exterior of the glass. Already, however, quite a pilgrimage of Roman Catholics has set in from neighboring parts, and it is probable that the fame of this simple little country church will soon extend beyond the borders of the sleepy county of Essex.

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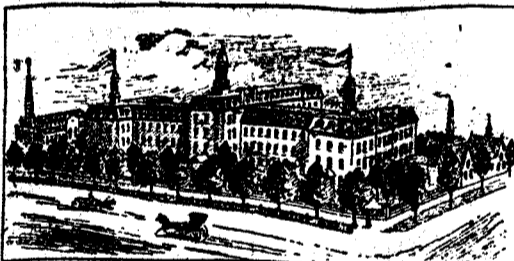
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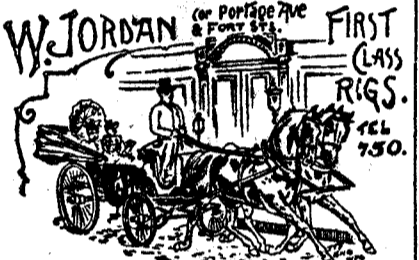
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