

nullified. That is just what is happening in Quebec. And yet how many important questions are pressing themselves on the attention of legislators and rulers! We have hardly any share in the immense movement which is going on to-day in Europe and America. The Northwest is on the way to pass us by. Our old province has been mortgaged for the millions that are absorbed in the construction of the Pacific and westward immigration and we do not even think of profiting by that movement. Our agriculture is not making even a tenth part of the progress that it ought to make. The last census has left us behind the other provinces. Our forests are disappearing, and with them our natural wealth. Our mines continue hidden beneath the surface of the soil, and education is neglected and is too much dissociated from the material progress of the present. Colonization has a few heroic apostles amongst us, but that individual effort is not seconded as it ought to be. And why is there this stagnation? Why this indifference? Why this division that is wasting our energies. We were already divided into two parties, and even that was too much, for it was too personal, too bitter. But now the Conservative party is divided against itself, while the Liberal party is almost as badly situated. Our British compatriots, not understanding these family quarrels, keep aloof from us, and at the present moment form almost a distinct party in our province. How, then, can you expect the Government, the Legislature, the press, to engage seriously in the elaboration of fruitful projects to develop our neglected resources. Why, we have hardly time to have our wounds dressed, our arms repaired, our ammunition renewed. As for the clergy, they, too, are the prey to profound dissensions,

THE PARAMOUNT DUTY OF THE HOUR.

What, then, is to be done? It is for all those who have any mission to instruct to give our position their serious reflection and to set to work without delay. No society can exist without submission to authority,

without in part surrendering its will to that of the general public. It ought to be well understood that it is no mere question of taste, or of self-love—it is a question of duty, a question of sacrifice. It is necessary to have confidence in the powers that be, even if they are not all that we desire. Have not the Government satisfied the bishops on the question of education? Have they not begun a vigorous reform in the direction of the strictest economy? Let them, then, have full opportunity to set in order our provincial finances, of which the equilibrium has been disturbed by judgments adverse to the Government's policy. Let them have the opportunity of making our provincial autonomy respected and if possible improved in the confederation to which we belong. These are some of the important tasks which claim every instant of the Cabinet's time and energy. French-Canadians, look around you. Look at the other nationalities of the province. Do you not think that they, too, have differences among themselves? Only it is to be noted that they settle them quietly, and, no matter what is the regime under which they live, they know how to come to an understanding with it when their own interests are at stake. You also see them at the head of all our great industrial enterprises. My friend, do you not think that it is an anti-Canadian proceeding to attack one of our own people who has succeeded by energy and perseverance, as Mr. Senecal has been attacked, a man whose courage and enterprise have raised him to the position which he holds? Do you not think that he would be an aid and a support to your undertakings, if you allowed him to give you the benefit of his wonderful business talents and rare activity. Away then at once with those who cause dissensions amongst you, who would, if they could, ruin your best men. Away with those who are eaten up with envy and jealousy and allow those who have proved themselves to be men of business to labor for the prosperity of the country. (Cheers).