

ably by the two gentlemen who have just addressed you. I have felt for a long time that I would like very much, if an opportunity were afforded me, to address the citizens of the capital of our Dominion. I have, it is true, had that opportunity in one sense, more than once, but my engagements are such that I have not always my time at my own disposal, and therefore I have not been able, until this evening, to gratify my own great wish and come here in obedience to the call, and under the auspices of the Equal Rights Association (cheers).

I have to thank you most cordially for approving of my course in Parliament on the question of the Jesuits' Estates Act, and still more for your endorsement, if I may consider you have endorsed it, of the policy I am now promoting, and which I shall continue to promote, viz.: the abolition of the dual language system and of Separate Schools in Manitoba and the North-West Territories. (Loud cheers.) I am not so much concerned at present with the local question. I think that very naturally and more properly belongs, in the first place, at all events, to the gentlemen of the Local House, who ought to be, and are, no doubt, more familiar with matters of that kind than I can pretend to be. At the same time, as a citizen of Ontario—of the Dominion—I heartily endorse the sentiment which the meeting has given utterance to—that we ought, and ought at once and for all time, to put an end to the teaching of our children, or any portion of our children, either French Canadian or English, in any other language than the language of the country in which we live. (Cheers.) I say further, but I do not propose to trespass upon your time or patience to-night in discussing the point, that we will not support or tolerate in this Province, no matter which political party may advocate them, any half-hearted measures to carry that object or reform into effect. (Loud cheers.) Before entering upon the more serious part of the discussion that is before us, I would ask why it is you are assembled here to listen to me? and why I am here to-night to address you under the auspices of the Equal Rights Association? It is quite true, as the mover of the resolution has stated, that I have been classed as a Conservative of the Conservatives. I have supported since Confederation the political party that is now in power in the Dominion, and I announce here to-night, that although I have separated myself in some measure from them, that I am still in accord with the general policy of the Government; differing from them, however, on a particular measure—the disallowance of the Jesuits' Estates Act, and I may yet have to differ from them more