

REV. J. M. BRUYERE'S PARTING WORD TO
THE PUBLIC.

With the above Documents I beg to close the controversy between the Chief Superintendent of Education and myself. The principle of *religious and free education* has been wantonly assailed by my antagonist throughout the controversy. In behalf of freedom of education grounded on religion—against State schoolism, I have raised my feeble voice. This voice, insignificant though it be, has been re-echoed by the whole Hierarchy in both Canadas. In the sacred name of justice and equity, both Pastors and flock proclaim *freedom of education as well as freedom of religion*. We demand these rights not alone for ourselves, but for all—for all Denominations; members of the Church of England, Methodists, Presbyterians, Baptists, Christians of every name and shade. "Protection to all—favor to none," is our motto.

Against the unnatural claims of an oppressive State schoolism upheld by Dr. Ryerson, I have appealed to an impartial and benevolent Public, through the Press in Canada. With the facts and arguments now laid before it, I hope our common Judge, will be able to form a correct estimate of the respective merit of both systems, viz:—Free schools *versus* State schools—Education having Religion for its basis, *versus* education excluding all religion—the right of the parent to educate his child as he pleases, *versus* the claims of the State to snatch the child from the parent's arms in order to confide it to the mercy of the law.

All Christian and civilized nations stand on the side of **FREE AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**. Against it the Chief Superintendent of Education has nothing to oppose but the practice and antecedents of pagan Lacedaemon. Shall Heathenism prevail over Christianity; State oppression over parental rights and privileges? Such is our position: such is the question at issue.

For having advocated these principles, I have been called every