

Manitoba alone. He opposed the policy of the Government, but he was not with the Opposition." No inquiry or conciliation for him. The resolution so happily framed that a member of the Opposition, for Opposition reasons, could move it, and a gentleman, who "was not with the Opposition" could second it, "was put to the meeting and carried enthusiastically." Of course that is just as it ought to be at "a non-partizan meeting"; but it leaves one entirely uninformed as to whether Mr. Mulock or Mr. Craig won the first bout, and that is what one wants to know.

The fun naturally got louder when Mr. McCarthy and Mr. Martin appeared for the next set-to. No inquiry, no commission, would suit Mr. McCarthy. Nothing fitted the occasion but "positive and absolute hostility to the Government which has taken this step." (Loud and long continued applause.) Had he not said in Cardwell: "I do not think there is a corporal's guard of men in Cardwell who want further information. And now he does not despair that he may get even Mr. Laurier's support, in the modified form in which he opposes the Remedial Bill." Mr. Martin, the seconder of this resolution, agreed, of course, to the "positive and absolute hostility to the Government": "To put the Grits in power? That's the issue.

If not, then this is not a non-partizan meeting," he said. But as to the inquiry, he asserted that "that is what, as I understand, the resolution calls for. I am for a commission. I am for an investigation." Whereupon, as the Globe report tells us, "there was some laughter"; and later, that "the resolution was put and unanimously carried." Whether Mr. McCarthy or Mr. Martin can be said to have won the second bout, and whether that resolution calls for a commission or not, are as uncertain as the result of the Mulock-Craig contest.

The next two aspirants were fairly matched, and hit one another some rare blows. The Hon. Mr. Wallace moved the resolution, and leaving it at once, attacked the "positive and absolute hostility to the Government" proposition. "We Conservatives," he said, "have been invited by previous speakers to leave our political party. But what for?" The meeting may take care of itself, but as for Mr. Wallace he will remain a Conservative—that is good enough for him. Then in flat-footed opposition to Mr. Mulock, and to the resolution which had just been carried (as its seconder understood it), Mr. Wallace said: "I've made up my mind on this matter. I don't want any commission." Mr. J. K. Kerr, in seconding Mr. Wallace's resolution, flew to the rescue of his political friends. He "wanted an inquiry," and he appealed to the Conservatives not to refuse "to vote for that amendment which will call for delay"—that is, for a commission. The resolution, of course, "on being put was carried without dissent"; but whether Wallace or Kerr won, no body probably will ever know.

Mr. Maclean closed the meeting and asserted that "nobody wanted the Bill but the hierarchy of Quebec, backed up by a certain section of the Conservative party, and a certain section of the Liberal party in Quebec, and a Government, which," etc.—nobody but somebody—a remark well adjusted to the paradoxical condition into which the meeting had good humoredly drifted.

Was there ever such a meeting? Can any one tell for what it voted. Was it for Mulock, Martin or Kerr, or for Craig, McCarthy, and Wallace? Was it for Mr. Mulock's "safe, middle course"; for Mr. Martin's understanding of the second resolution; for Mr. McCarthy's "positive and absolute hostility to the Government"; for Mr. Craig's "no commission"; for—for what under the sun? Was there ever such a complacent audience, such good humored voting for everybody and everything?

The ignorance, sad lack of memory, on the part of the speakers, was another remarkable feature of the meeting. The chairman wanted to know "why was not the Parliament of Canada asked to pass coercive legislation, interfering with the educational legislation of New Brunswick? (Hear, hear; and cheers);" and "why was the Parliament of Canada not moved to pass remedial or coercive legislation against Quebec" in the Jesuits' Estate matter?; just as though every school boy did not by this time know that the answer to the first question was that Parliament had no jurisdiction, and to the second that the proceedings, commenced with a view to obtaining remedial legislation, were withdrawn by the applicants themselves. Mr. McCarthy summarized, he said, my arguments before the Governor-General-in-Council "in five words: separate schools had been established by the half-breeds in 1871; separate schools had been abolished by the intelligent people of 1890." I did not utter a single syllable

to that effect. At page 40 Mr. McCarthy is reported as having said: "My learned friend, in the first place, dealt with what he called the historical question, that is to say, the bargain, or treaty, or compact that was made prior to the passage of the Manitoba Act"—and, therefore, prior to 1871. At pages 48-9 he said: "The third view is that you are to deal with the matter upon its merits, and that is a view, I am very glad to say, which was pressed upon you yesterday by my learned friend, Mr. Ewart. It is upon the merits that he invokes your interference, etc." Mr. McCarthy's memory is very short. Mr. Wallace said that "separate schools are an unmitigated evil in this country and they are unnecessary. Look across the ocean at Great Britain, etc." Look, indeed; but you will see more than one-half the scholars in denominational schools. Mr. Wallace asserted that "Bishop Gravel says that he influenced the Lords of the Privy Council to give the decision they did." The bishop never said so. The Rev. Dr. Bryce said that "he knew" that the Presbyterian Synod resolutions "had an important effect upon the decision which was given."

Rhetoric, too, of exalted order was not wanting—startling evidence of the efficiency of some schools. Read that fourth resolution:—"We ask you in our united names appended, with a Canadian voice given to each of the many names, to appeal to whatever force has made this measure a possibility, to stay its hand." Stay the hand of some force by an appeal with a Canadian voice given to each name! And read, also, about Mr. J. K. Kerr's dynamite—when he invoked those twenty-five members of Parliament, who are going to stand up in such a manly way, to quit themselves like men," asserting that if they did, "this law, which has been thrown like a fire brand, nay, like dynamite, into the field of politics, will disappear, will explode into the air, and not reach the ground, and we will be saved, etc." Loud cheers for that, too! Was there ever such a happy party?

And there was acclaimed, also (and this is the comforting feature for me), Mr. Martin's declaration "that to allow religious exercises which were acceptable to Protestants only, and only to a majority of Protestants, in the schools, and to refuse to allow religious exercises acceptable to the Roman Catholics, would in my opinion, be rank tyranny." If, in the opinion of the meeting, the same may be said of religious education as of religious exercises, then the Catholic view is vindicated and triumphant. For the situation in Manitoba is this: that the vast majority of both creeds insist upon having some religion, both in education and in exercises, in the schools; that the majority of Protestants, however, insist upon these being of a character to suit themselves; and that they have the intolerant bigotry—the "rank tyranny"—to deny to Catholics that in schools in which there are none but Catholics, the religious exercises and education shall be that which Catholics desire—insisting that it shall be such as Protestants declare to be sufficient and proper. This is the Manitoba school question in a nut-shell. All the rest is mere detail and machinery.

JOHN S. EWART.

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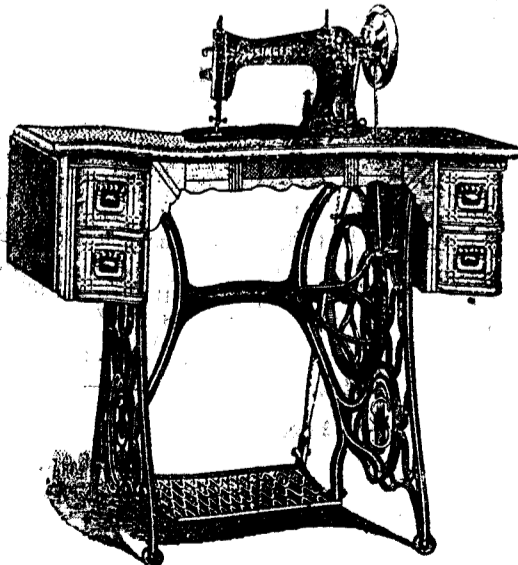
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6.19 p.m.	Headingley	11.21 a.m.
6.42 p.m.	White Plains	10.57 a.m.
7.06 p.m.	Gravel Pit Spur	10.52 a.m.
7.18 p.m.	La Salle Park	10.34 a.m.
7.25 p.m.	Eustache	10.11 a.m.
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