

reads the newspaper details of the Transvaal disturbance the confusion prevents us from putting faith even in the bulletins of the War Office, and when one rises above these details to seek the causes which have led people to take sides in the matter of its righteousness, there seems to be no limit possible to human credulity.

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THE only justification of our editorial references to this subject lies in the fact that there was a school question in the Transvaal, as there has been a school question in our own country—a school question which placed the Outlanders of Johannesburg and Pretoria at a disadvantage that has been altogether overlooked by the men who would hide everything that is wise and honest from one section of our community in order to procure their votes. Indeed, when one enquires from history where the leanings of the French-Canadian element should be found in this contest between the Outlanders and the Boers, there is but one direction in which one would expect to find them, and the struggle of 1837 between a majority striving to gain the ascendancy of a ruling minority surely points the way. For is there not a well-defined parallel between the urgings of the Papineau party in Lower Canada under Dalhousie and Aylmer and the strivings for liberty under the rule of Paul Kruger. The French-Canadians cannot sympathize with Kruger in his usurpations without giving the lie to the movement that found its expression in the ninety-two resolutions; and when one finds a public man fostering such inconsistency of sympathy there is but one alternative, namely, either to consider such a public man a knave or history a lie.

THE Transvaal school question arose from the fact that the Outlanders, who were in a majority, had no control over the schools in which they had to send their children, while in Canada the school question has always had for its object the protection of the rights of a minority. In view of such, therefore, it seems all but ridiculous that there should be found even one French Canadian in the country who, in presence of what has happened from the beginning of the present century till its very close, among his compatriots and forefathers, would be found stultifying history—the history of his own country—falsely as that history may or may not represent the events. The struggle in Canada was that of a majority against a ruling minority, and in the Transvaal the same political phenomenon is to be seen in the Outlanders' antagonism to Kruger's rule. England, it is true, is at the back of the Outlanders, but the patriots of 1837 boasted of having the sympathy of the United States in their favor, and even threatened the minority with that sympathy as a factor in the strife. In a word, the historical parallel, even supposing history to be a lie, between the present state of affairs in the Transvaal and the affairs in Lower Canada that led to the Rebellion of 1837 should make our French-Canadian brethren pause in the face of history repeating itself, to discover where the truth of the matter lies. It is certainly not to be found with the man with his muckrake in hand reaching out for all the votes he can sweep within his clutches.

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THE school question in Canada is dead, and the school question in the Transvaal is not likely to be of long duration when the settlement of affairs comes after the war. The