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Miramichi Advance. CHATHAM, N. B. APRIL 9, 1896. Ottawa. Very little progress is being made with public business at Ottawa, on account of the deliberately obstructive tactics of Messrs. Laurier and Dalton McGee, who appear to have combined for the purpose of preventing the Remedial bill from passing.

The Manitoba Conference. We devote a good deal of space in this number of the ADVANCE to the official papers which passed between the Dominion and Manitoba Commissioners respectively at Winnipeg last week. It will be observed that the Manitoba commissioners discussed the subject of the present system of schools in contrast with separate schools, as if it were open to the Commission to sanction whichever of the two systems might, in itself, appear to be the most efficient and acceptable, entirely ignoring the fact that the minority must, under the constitution, be given separate schools. It is, therefore, evident that it was a deliberate purpose of these gentlemen not to deal with the Dominion Commissioners in a fair and candid manner, but to beg the question and waste time by discussing issues other than those to be settled, in order that the public mind might be more perplexed than ever over the matter.

The Manitoba Conference (continued). Under the auspices of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, Edward J. Phelps, ex-United States Minister to England, and now professor of international law at Yale College, delivered an address on the Monroe doctrine on Wednesday last. The address was entirely and emphatically opposed to what is known as the American view of that doctrine. He commenced by saying that the Monroe doctrine had been brought strikingly before the people during the past few months, and its latest application had brought them to the very verge of war with Great Britain, and perhaps still more recently to that of war with Spain, as the same time paralyzing the business interests of the country. The controversy, the speaker said, was between the United States and countries with which we had no quarrel.

The Manitoba Conference (continued). Following is the official report of the conference between the Dominion and Manitoba Government Commissioners on the School question. "Supposition for settlement of Manitoba School question from Dominion Commissioners for Manitoba Government." "Legislation shall be passed at the present session of the Manitoba Legislature to provide that in towns and villages where there are twenty-five Roman Catholic children of school age, and in cities where there are, say, fifty of such children, the Board of Trustees shall arrange that such children shall have a school house or school room for their own use, to be erected, if necessary, by a Roman Catholic teacher, and Roman Catholic parents or guardians, say, ten in number, may appeal to the Department of Education for any decision or neglect of the board in respect of its duty under this clause, and the board shall observe and carry out all decisions and directions of the department on any such appeal.

The Manitoba Conference (continued). "Provisions shall be made by this resolution that school wherein the majority of children are Catholics shall be exempted from the requirements of the regulations as to religious exercises. "That text books be permitted in Catholic schools shall be with the religious exercises, and that the same shall be approved by the board of trustees of the school. "That no text books be permitted in Catholic schools shall be with the religious exercises, and that the same shall be approved by the board of trustees of the school.

Make a Pie. Shorten it with Cottole instead of lard and see what a crisp crust it will have; how delicious and wholesome it will be. Pie made with Cottole will do a dyspeptic good. Do not buy Cottole because it is good. There is only one secret in cooking with Cottole—use but two-thirds as much as you would naturally use of lard. Follow this rule and Cottole will do the rest. THE N. E. FAIRBANK COMPANY, Wellington and San Francisco.

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teaching to be held in any public school between 3.30 and 4 o'clock, in the afternoon. Such religious exercises and teaching to be conducted by any Christian denomination, whose charge includes any portion of the school district, or by any person acting as a majority of the trustees, who may be authorized by said trustees to act in his stead; the trustees to allot the period fixed for religious exercises or teaching for the different days of the week, to the representatives of the different religious denominations in such a way as to proportion the time allotted as nearly as possible to the number of pupils, in the school of the respective denominations. Two or more denominations may have the privilege of uniting for the purpose of such religious exercises. If no duly authorized representative of any of the denominations attend, the regular school work to be carried on until four o'clock. "No pupil to be permitted to be present at such religious exercises or teaching if the parents shall object. In such case the pupil to be dismissed at 3.30. "The schoolroom accommodation at the disposal of the trustees, to be used, instead of allowing different days of the week to different denominations, the trustees to direct that the pupils shall be separated, and placed in different rooms, for the purpose of religious exercises as may be convenient. "We believe that the foregoing proposal will remove any well-grounded ground. "If the objection of the minority be made, the schools are Protestant, as alleged in some of their petitions, then the objection can be fully and finally disposed of by complete secularization. "If the real objection be the desire to have, along with efficient secular education, proper religious training, then the second plan proposed offers an effective method of attaining the object desired. In fact, it is difficult to conceive why better plan could be proposed even were we dealing with a system of schools entirely Catholic. It would be, in any event, necessary to have some general provision as to the time allotted for religious exercises and teaching. The individual school could not be permitted to act without restraint. The time suggested seems to be a reasonable and sufficient proportion of the school hours, and will be accomplished, the uniformity and efficiency of the schools to which the children of all denominations would go, would remain absolutely unimpaired and unaffected. "Signed, "CLIFFORD SIFTON, 'J. D. CAMERON.' THE DOMINION REVENUE. "Manitoba Herald, Winnipeg, Mar. 31st 1896. "Honorable Clifford Sifton, Honorable J. D. Cameron: "We beg leave to acknowledge your communication of yesterday, and written in reply to our suggestions for settlement of the Manitoba school question. We regret to find that there has been some

MANITOBA'S REBUTION.

"Hon. Arthur R. Dickey, Hon. A. Desjardins, Hon. K. C. M. G., "Gentlemen,—We have had under consideration the memorandum handed to us on the 28th inst., containing your suggestions for settlement of the Manitoba school question, and have the honor to submit herewith our reply thereto. "We desire, first, to refer to the understanding upon which the conference was proceeded with. You will remember that, as we thought it necessary before proceeding with the details of the question involved to stipulate: "1st.—That while the conference was proceeding the Remedial Bill now before Parliament should be held in abeyance, and the proceedings taken thereon should be suspended, provided the conference did not extend beyond Tuesday next. "2nd.—That in the event of an agreement being reached for settlement of the Remedial Bill should be at once withdrawn, and the execution of the terms of the agreement left to the parties. These stipulations were agreed to by yourselves without hesitation, but notwithstanding such agreement, and in violation of its terms, the Remedial Bill was advanced a stage in the House of Commons on Saturday morning. While not desirous of taking any advantage of this departure from the conditions upon which the negotiations were opened, we are nevertheless bound to ourselves to protest against the course pursued by the Government by which you were commissioned.

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The season of dangers and perils is now upon us. Are you fully prepared for them? It is not our wish to pose as alarmists—to create fear and trembling in the ranks of the timid and fearful. At this season, however, strong and reasonable statements are imperative. It is not our wish to pose as alarmists—to create fear and trembling in the ranks of the timid and fearful. At this season, however, strong and reasonable statements are imperative. It is not our wish to pose as alarmists—to create fear and trembling in the ranks of the timid and fearful. At this season, however, strong and reasonable statements are imperative.