

AUTONOMY, PROVINCIAL, IN THE NORTH-WEST—*Con.*

*Borden, R. L.* (Carleton, Ont.)—*Con.*

nothing of the kind—8598. I think it was used by Mr. Ewart in his argument before the sub-committee of the Privy Council of 1895 with regard to Manitoba—8602. I understand that what Monk is asking by his motion is that the present system shall be continued—8603. The legislative assembly of the Northwest on any day could rescind that resolution and pass another—8604. So that the power which he proposes to confer upon the legislature of the new province might be exercised to-morrow—8605. Why, Fitzpatrick has told us over and over again, let us not forget that we are absolutely free to depart from section 92—8606. If that is the policy of the government, they will have to accept this motion—8607. If I remember correctly, the territorial government said that they had no appropriation for publishing the ordinances in French—8609-10. I have not been in favour of the sub-amendment that has just been disposed of for the same reason—8627. It is made clear by the language of Laurier that it is a parliamentary compact alone—8628. So far as the use of the French language in this country is concerned, we are absolutely bound to observe the obligations—8629. There is not one word with which I do not agree—8630. I think we created courts in the Territories under the power which was given to us by the B. N. A. Act, 1871—8631. Therefore, there seems to be no constitutional difficulty in the way from the standpoint of the government—8632. Technically, the bargain is between the Crown and these companies, but the Crown expects that the legislature will observe the contract—8633. I would like to consider what amendments, if any, will have to be moved to that Bill—8635. I do not know that we shall be able to get through with it all on Tuesday—8636.

*Bourassa, Henri* (Labelle)—7141.

The object of the Bill of 1875 was not to deal with the minority in any one district—7141. I believe the whole clause means that the majority or minority must be considered as Protestant or Catholic—7142. I am taking the intention of the legislator as stated in Mr. Blake's speech—7143. I fail to see that it meant the power of the government to regulate both public and sectarian schools—7144. I beg to say that I do not wish to pursue the debate on the lines laid down by the Prime Minister—8299—and the leader of the opposition, because it seems to me that the whole constitutional question was dealt with before—8300. It will thus be seen that parliament was dealing not with this minority and that majority in any particular section—8301. But with the Protestant or Catholic majority and the Protestant or Catholic minority, as the case might be—8302. The pledges given in 1875 were pledges which this government at first considered that they should keep—8303. I say distinctly that this parliament is free. I do not claim

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some small legal technicality, but a broad moral obligation—8304. They were already self-governing provinces when they entered the confederation compact in 1867—8305. I stick to the law instead of to an ordinance which has been passed in defiance of the law—8306. It simply meant that the local majority could establish the number of schools they saw fit—8307. We have to consider the comments that were made upon it by the men who adopted it—8308. If the minority were of a different creed they could separate from the majority—8309. Quotes the judgment of the Privy Council—8310-11. The ordinance of 1884 was never put in force, because it was found by the legislature that they had not the power to exercise the taxation part of it—8312. We have schools in which we allow and ask the authorities of the church to give instructions—8313. Under the ordinance of 1885 you could organize a Catholic public school district or a Protestant public school district—8314. The only Catholic schools that exist at present in the Northwest Territories are nine separate schools—8315. I have followed the proceedings of the assembly of the Northwest Territories—8317. I have found that first in 1889 the Northwest Assembly petitioned this parliament by two addresses—8318. Quotes Laurier in 1893—8319. Quotes Haultain in 1905—8320. When you deprive Catholics of the teaching of history in their own way, you deprive them of one of the essential rights of separation—8321. In voting for this in a spirit of conciliation, they are voting for what has been denounced by Sir John Macdonald—8322. Unfortunately, Lalor's party started the racial cry, and this party unfortunately is too cowardly to resist it—8323. We want the Northwest Territories to be built upon the same principle as that which was adopted by the fathers of confederation—8324. The complaint of the Roman Catholics was rather based upon dangers which might arise from the ordinances—8325. Although he did not think proper to disallow the ordinance of 1892, he maintained the right of this parliament to pass legislation—8326. This language which I have quoted from Sir John Thompson and Brodeur disposes of that argument which is now made in Quebec—8327. The new law created a department of public instruction, at the head of which was one of the ministers—8328. The question of separate schools was never regarded as having reference to language, but only as referring to creed—8329. They are not allowed to read even the history of their own country in their native language—8330. It has been said that the Catholics, at least when they have a majority, are free to engage their own teachers—8331. Either that primary right is not guaranteed either for the public schools or separate schools under the ordinance of 1901—8332. On 31st December, 1900, the number of Catholic public schools was forty-six—8333. I stated positively that the change