

all those claims for separate schools in Upper Canada, which most Protestants and many Catholics have so long and so earnestly opposed, as contrary to sound principles of educational legislation. It will necessitate the extension and secure the perpetuation of the separate system in the Western Province. It will encourage those parties in other churches, the Anglican especially, who are eager to claim separate schools for their children. It will give a pretext for the application of the separate principle to grammar schools and universities. And so it will be fraught with peril to that entire fabric of united public education which Canadians have striven so earnestly to rear, and have hoped to develop into one of the chief glories of their country.

We are well aware of the immense difficulties in the way of de-sectarianising the Lower Canada schools, sanctioned by existing law, and defended as a citadel by a clergy socially and politically almost omnipotent. But when there is so great danger that the breastworks we throw up to protect our own position, will rather serve as another line of entrenchments around the hostile camp, shall we be forward to undertake such a work ?

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## GOOD CROPS, HIGH PRICES, AND MINISTERS' SALARIES.

Divine Providence has blessed our country with an abundant harvest, while there is scarcity elsewhere. Consequently, the value of everything that can be eaten or worn, has rapidly increased. The amount of wealth that has thus been added to the resources of the Canadian people, it is difficult to estimate, but it must be very large. The farmer is hardly allowed to keep anything produced upon his land, so urgent and tempting are buyers of grain, fruit, dairy produce and stock. Merchants can scarcely find goods enough to sell. Wages are rising, and labour is scarce. But one class of the community is the last to feel the advantage of this general prosperity—viz., those with fixed incomes, derived from investments or salaries. These are the poorer for their neighbours' wealth.

We would say a word to the wise on behalf of some members of this class who are hindered by a peculiar delicacy from pleading their own cause,—Ministers of the Gospel. Their salaries are usually calculated to a nicety at the point that will just suffice for a bare livelihood. But when every barrel of flour, every joint of meat, every yard of cloth, and every pair of shoes, costs 25 or 50 per cent. more, what are they to do ? We ask the members of our churches, especially the deacons, to take up this question, and answer it by taking means to raise the salaries of ministers, without waiting until *they* are compelled to urge the matter upon their attention, or a deputation from a Missionary Society brings the matter forward. To pay the former salary, at present prices, is like paying the amount in greenbacks, instead of gold.

We do not advocate any impossibility. God has given the churches the means to do what we urge upon them. Their pastors have borne with them the pinching of want : it will be a sin and a shame if they do not partake of their returning abundance.