

PARLIAMENT.

OTTAWA, April 6.—Yesterday's debate was full of fire. Today's debate was warm but not lurid. The gravity of the discussion was due to Mr. Sbarretti's statement given out to the press at an early hour this morning.

SBARRETT'S STATEMENT.

"Since the discussion of yesterday a statement has been made by my excellency, Monsignor Sbarretti. I do not know anything of the circumstances under which the delegate was in the first place brought to this country beyond what has been stated by gentlemen on the other side of the house, who have personal knowledge of that which they state. As I gather from them, the delegate apostolic came to this country in 1897, not at the instance of the bishops in Canada, but at the instance of a friendly liberal member of parliament, members of the Roman Catholic church.

WAS AMAZED.

Continuing the opposition leader said: "I notice that my hon. friends opposite cheered very much the statement that Catholics in any territory would naturally object to being subjected to the educational conditions which existed in Manitoba."

The right hon. gentlemen have declared this to be a happy solution of a difficult situation. But hon. gentlemen opposite cheerfully avow that they have just quoted. Their attitude is a little incomprehensible to myself, and I think it must be incomprehensible to any reasonable man throughout the country. (conservative cheers.)

HIS EXCELLENCY.

Now, let us observe a little what his excellency does say. He is an able and accomplished man, brought up in one of the best schools of diplomacy in the world, a diplomat, a man who would make no suggestion. I am sure to Mr. Campbell or to Mr. Rogers, which he did not feel himself able to carry out.

And let us see if my hon. friends opposite will cheer a little analysis of what his excellency does say. "I marked that from the point of view of the Manitoba government some action on these lines would be politically expedient." Politically expedient, mark you, "the purpose of the accomplishment of his object, inasmuch as Catholics in any territory which might be annexed to Manitoba would naturally object to losing the right they had to separate schools, and to be subjected to the educational conditions which existed in Manitoba."

Conditions which the right honorable gentleman himself stated in 1897 were absolutely satisfactory. Not only to himself, but to the people of the province of Quebec. "Politically expedient" what does that mean? He has said, and the prime minister has said, that the consideration of the question had been arranged on behalf of the government, or at the instance of the government, but I do not observe in the statement of his excellency that he did not consider himself to have authority to make the suggestion which he did make to the Hon. Mr. Campbell on that occasion.

GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBLE.

But the government of this country are responsible to us, and if there has been any suggestion of this kind by or on behalf of the government of this country, or by or on behalf of any member of it, then I say the country will demand, and I think the people will demand, the dismissal or retirement of any member of this government who ventured to confer upon his excellency any authority of that kind. He is not responsible to us, but the members of the administration are.

I venture to think that in addition to the explanations which were given by the prime minister yesterday in this regard there should be some further explanations made to the house and to the country today, in view of the very frank statement which has been made by his excellency, and which I have brought to the attention of the house. I move the adjournment of the house.

SIR WILFRID.

Laurier in reply protested that the government of Canada had no connection whatever with the alleged threats to coerce Manitoba, had no responsibility for the individual views of the friendly liberal newspaper, from the Toronto Globe to Le Soleil, and had in all the reported Northwest negotiations no connection whatever, officially or unofficially, with the delegate apostolic. Laurier said with vehemence: "I am not afraid of the future and will meet the situation as it comes up, as I have done in the past thirty years."

HON. MR. FOSTER.

Mr. Foster was the next speaker, and at the outset of his remarks he analyzed and answered the statements and arguments of the prime minister. The latter claimed, said Mr. Foster, that the policy of the government respecting the boundaries of Manitoba had been stated in the speech delivered when the autonomy bills were introduced on Feb. 21. That was not correct, for in that very speech it was stated that the question respecting the extension of the boundary of Manitoba to the north and northeast was a mat-

ter for future consideration when that province, as well as Ontario and Quebec, could be heard. The question was therefore left open. Then it was said that the statement of the Manitoba delegates was not correct in regard to Mr. Rogers having conferred with Mr. Sbarretti, for the latter had never seen Mr. Rogers and did not know him.

PRIME MINISTER'S STATEMENT.

But what the prime minister did not say was more significant than what he had said. It had been stated many times in different places before the introduction of the bills on February 21, the prime minister had had numerous conferences with Mr. Sbarretti respecting the measure. That statements had not yet been denied. And had it come to this, that the representative of a church (he did not care which) must be visited and consulted by the prime minister before he dared bring down to parliament legislation like that before the house? Was it proper for the head of the government of Canada to have conferences with the papal legate respecting legislation and give the go-by to representatives of the people—to two of his ministers, Mr. Sifton and Mr. Fielding?

WOULD MAKE SAME COMPLAINT.

"If the representative of the Presbyterian church," said Mr. Foster, "of the Methodist church, of the Anglican church, or of any other church occupied a position similar to that held by Mr. Sbarretti and he should be consulted on a matter like this, I should make the same complaint.

"There should be no semblance of union of church and state in this country. The majority of our people came from the stock that years ago fought against such union and incorporated their principles into our constitution. They were born and bred to that idea, and would stand by it. The prime minister by his tortuous course, had raised a question in the country which far transcended in importance the question being debated. The question was: 'What is the position in the country? Why was there a papal ablegate in Canada? Did spiritual difficulties with the people of his faith necessitate his presence? No such difficulties existed, and he had been alleged as an explanation of the presence of the ablegate. He had been asked for, but not to settle spiritual difficulties, but because there were troubles in the liberal camp. The prime minister conceived it to be good policy to bring to Canada this high dignitary of the church to administer to certain of his followers, not spiritual but political consolation.'"

RECITED THE FACTS.

Mr. Foster then recited the facts that led up to the appointment of the first papal ablegate, Mr. Merry, in 1896, and in this connection he read a letter signed by the prime minister and written in October, 1897, to the papal secretary of state asking that the ablegate be allowed to remain in Canada, and he also read the well known letter of Charles Russell, solicitor of London, Eng., and agent of the Canadian government, written in November, 1897, in the same regard. "Does the prime minister see the horns of the dilemma?" asked Mr. Foster. "You brought Mr. Sbarretti here, you have kept him here for five years or more; you kept him here for those purposes, and when he comes to the final, crucial point, and uses his influence to disown him. If this is cowardice, then let it go by its imputation."

A FUTILE DEFENSE.

It was idle for the prime minister to think that his futile defense would be accepted by the country. Monsignor Sbarretti was here and he had done what he had done, and he remained in Canada, and he also read the well known letter of Charles Russell, solicitor of London, Eng., and agent of the Canadian government, written in November, 1897, in the same regard. "Does the prime minister see the horns of the dilemma?" asked Mr. Foster. "You brought Mr. Sbarretti here, you have kept him here for five years or more; you kept him here for those purposes, and when he comes to the final, crucial point, and uses his influence to disown him. If this is cowardice, then let it go by its imputation."

HAD DONE WORSE.

But the prime minister had done worse, said Mr. Foster. He had told the house that Mr. Sbarretti had been made Manitoba an extension of boundaries for a political consideration without any authorization, but suppose he had obtained the modification of the school laws as indicated, would not the prime minister have granted the extension of Manitoba's boundaries? When gentlemen opposite said that Mr. Sbarretti held out political promises to the delegate from Manitoba, but that he had no right to do so, what an estimate did they place on the papal ablegate. Mr. Foster refused to believe that a high dignitary of the Roman Catholic Church such as Mr. Sbarretti, a man of his training and parts, would by a trick, endeavor to get for his co-religionists two amendments in the Manitoba school law unless he knew that if they were granted the other thing would be. Along what byways and crooked paths the prime minister was forcing himself now, as a result of his misdeeds to tread in sorrow and humiliation?

THE PEOPLE'S DEMANDS.

The people of Canada demanded there be no plausible alliance between church and state. The head of the Methodist Church or of any other church had no more right to be consulted with respect to legislation than any layman in the land. He protested against the whole course that had been followed, and in so doing he believed that he was voicing the sentiment of a great majority of the people of Canada.

OTHER SPEAKERS.

The debate was continued tonight by Maclean of East York, McDonald of Picton, and Dr. Sproule, the latter accusing the premier and his Quebec liberal associates amid loud cheers, of having seduced an able Italian statesman to Canada under false pretences. Canada did not blame the apostolic delegate for what he had done in interfering with the education of the youth, but it would hold the men who imported him responsible for his interference between church and state, and would show by a vote that they would forever Laurier and his backers were today trying to break down British liberty by imposing church schools on the country.

Dr. Sproule continued the debate to-night till 10.35, when he was followed by Hon. William Paterson in his usual noisy speech. The debate late tonight was continued by Carey, Fitzpatrick and others, Bergeron exposing the sophistry of the grip French leaders, who help power by their spurious appeals to Roman Catholics in Quebec. He had had a long and bitter fight with the Protestants in Quebec, and held his seat to render justice to whom justice was due. By the votes of the Catholics of Quebec against Laurier's doubts, he had come back here, but where were his opponents?

The debate was continued by Tabot of Bellechasse and Ingram of Elgin, the latter holding the floor at two o'clock this morning. It was after two o'clock this morning when others of the day were reached and Leighton McCarthy moved adjournment of autonomy bill debate.

OTTAWA, April 7.—In the commons today Mr. Roche, conservative for Marquette, called attention to some of Sir Wilfrid's remarks during the debate of yesterday.

"The whole trend of Mr. McCarthy's speech on the amendment of Mr. Borden, it was not an interpretation which would carry any weight in the country. The whole trend of Mr. McCarthy's speech on the amendment of Mr. Borden, it was not an interpretation which would carry any weight in the country. The whole trend of Mr. McCarthy's speech on the amendment of Mr. Borden, it was not an interpretation which would carry any weight in the country.

At nine o'clock Lennox resumed his speech on the autonomy bill to full galleries. "Turgeon of Gloucester, N. B., followed Lennox at 10.30 in favor of the bill in all its clauses. At 10.45 A. M. Tabot of Strathcona, Northwest Territories, continued the debate. At one o'clock Pringle moved the adjournment of the debate and the house rose at 1.15.

OTTAWA, April 7.—Hance J. Logan, who has been ill for the past few days, is rapidly recovering and will soon resume his seat in the house. In addition to Mr. Tabot of Strathcona, Northwest Territories, continued the debate. At one o'clock Pringle moved the adjournment of the debate and the house rose at 1.15.

Today is the 37th anniversary of the assassination of Thomas d'Arcy McGee on his way home from the house of commons. This afternoon many people visited the spot, corner Sparks and O'Connor streets. Crockett of York leaves for Fredericton this afternoon on professional business.

Mr. Borden said Sir Wilfrid was quite right in one sense in regard to the resolution, but he was not satisfied by executive action. Sir Wilfrid had stated also that the attention had not been called to the attention of the government of Canada. This was not correct, the prime minister had called attention to the matter in the house of commons.

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AT THE TELEPHONE.

A prominent United States army officer was discussing army methods, and referred to the common use of the telephone in modern warfare and manoeuvres. "The telephone is a great institution," he said, "but I am afraid that the famous fighters of the past would not have appreciated it. I never use the telephone in the field. It is an insupportable army officer of my acquaintance."

A STRENUOUS HINT.

Miss Willing—"Don't you feel a draught over there by the window?" Slowboy—"Yes, I—believe I do. Shall I pull down the—er blind, or come over and sit by you?" "But the simple Mrs." says that Will never come back, you'll see.

LOCAL LEGISLATURE.

FREDERICTON, N. B., April 7.—The house met at 10 o'clock for a question of privilege. When the appropriation for the library was before the committee, the leader of the opposition made a very appropriate address in regard to the state of the library, to every word of which I agreed. But I made some further remarks which are not included in the official report and which I think is only due to the librarian to be made public. While no pretensions are made as to his literary attainments as far as his capacity enabled him, he has been a diligent and faithful servant of the government. He has done his work diligently and well and I would be glad to move that his salary be increased.

THE SHORE LINE.

Mr. Clarke presented a resolution with reference to the New Brunswick Southern railway. This railway gives the people of the province a connecting line with the C. P. R. and therefore the proper maintenance of the New Brunswick Southern is a necessity. The act incorporating the railway company as the New Brunswick Southern Railway, in 1874 and the railway was completed in 1882. In 1888 Russell Sage of New York, and other individuals, most of whom were residing in the United States, were incorporated as the Shore Line Railway Co. They afterwards acquired the Grand Southern Railway, which was renamed the Shore Line, and in 1898 sold the same to the Dominion government. The Dominion government acquired the Grand Southern Railway, which was renamed the Shore Line, and in 1898 sold the same to the Dominion government.

The road was tied up all last winter after the first of February, and in January of this year only eleven trips were made. The road also received a subsidy from the Dominion government for carrying the mails, and that also has been most unsatisfactory. I am informed that some lumbermen have been compelled to abandon their operations in consequence of being unable to bring their supplies over the road. Many appeals have been made for a better service, and the answer to these appeals usually is that the road does not pay and that they are not prepared to travel in it open. I venture to affirm that if the road does not pay it ought to pay, and that its failure to pay can only be due to bad management.

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SHOULD BE KEPT CLEAR.

It is favorably situated as regards snow storms and might be kept open all winter. The road is in a bad condition, and the manager neglected to send a gang over the road and the result was it froze to the rails. The owners of the road have been negligent in not going down, and this accounts for the blockade last winter at Spruce Lake. If they had a proper equipment at the St. Stephen end of the line it could have been kept open. The road was without difficulty. The company has been endeavoring to get a bridge over the St. Croix at St. Stephen so as to establish connection with the United States. Because the company and the St. Stephen people do not agree on the locality of the bridge and it is believed by many that there is a deliberate intention to keep the road open. I fully sympathize with the people for the inconvenience they have suffered. I feel that the railway people should not be blamed for not doing what was impossible, and I only add that I am in favor of the resolution. The resolution was carried unanimously.

HOUSE CLEANING.

(Madge Terub Crockett.) Till your fingers are starchy and bent, O, well, for the patriarch's wife, Who looked through the door of a tent And saw the stately camels go by, When the sun's fierce rays were spent! Beat, Beat, Beat, O, well, for that wanderer's wife Who all through her life was content To sit in the shade, resting her feet On a carpet, by nature left.

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A large pulp mill and of several sardine canning plants, and whereas the said railway may be connected at small expense with the terminus of the C. P. R. system at the city of St. John and at the town of St. Stephen with the system of United States railways terminating at the city of Calais in the state of Maine, and may be made an important feeder of the I. C. R. and a connecting line between the Canadian railways and the great railway systems of the United States by way of the Washington County railway, the Malpe Central railway, and the Boston and Maine railway; and whereas, in the opinion of this house the connection which would be established between the United States and a large section of the maritime provinces by the acquisition of said railway by the Dominion government would inure to the prosperity of the country generally and would ensure a continuous and satisfactory railway and mail service to the people residing along the line of said railway.

"Resolved, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Right Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier and to the Minister of Railways. The resolution was carried unanimously. Mr. Pugsley moved that the bill to amend the Towns Incorporation Act be read a third time. Mr. Hazen said that he had received a telephone from Edmundston stating that the bill, and it was stated to be likely to affect them, they had a right to be heard on the subject. It was his belief that it was being passed for political or personal reasons. Mr. Pugsley said that as to there being political reasons he knew nothing about that, because he did not know the position of those who are necessary for the purpose of enabling the people of Edmundston to make a choice of whoever they pleased for mayor and aldermen. Mr. King introduced a bill to amend the act of the Auto Road Company. Mr. Tweddie introduced a bill to amend chapter 55 of the Consolidated Statutes respecting public health. Mr. Sweeney introduced a bill for the relief of emigrant children. He said that it was for the purpose of enabling societies which sent children to the United States to have the children and to see that they were properly treated. Mr. Sweeney presented the petition of the Hon. D. L. Hanington for political or personal reasons. Mr. Pugsley moved that the bill to amend the Towns Incorporation Act be read a third time. Mr. Hazen said that he had received a telephone from Edmundston stating that the bill, and it was stated to be likely to affect them, they had a right to be heard on the subject. It was his belief that it was being passed for political or personal reasons. Mr. Pugsley said that as to there being political reasons he knew nothing about that, because he did not know the position of those who are necessary for the purpose of enabling the people of Edmundston to make a choice of whoever they pleased for mayor and aldermen. 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