

friend in his brief reference to the subject, accounted for the absence of any mention of it in the speech from the throne by the reason that, according to his views, that subject was practically out of the range of our deliberations now. Has the hon. gentleman correctly interpreted on that matter the sentiments of the government? Does the government really believe that this subject can be dropped in that way? If that were the case, I must say that no greater delusion could pervade the minds of the hon. members on the treasury benches. And I am bound at this stage of our deliberations to give them a warning. We stand to-day where we have always stood. From the first we have made up our minds that we would appeal to the constitution of our country to remedy the grievances we have, and from that moment we have been decided to leave no stone unturned in order to get justice. We are just as decided now as we were in 1890 to pursue that course. No delay will deter us from pursuing that course, and no obstacles will induce the minority to surrender their rights. These rights have been determined by the pronouncement of the Privy Council. They have been determined more especially by the remedial order passed by the late government. And while mentioning that remedial order it is but fair that I should point out to the statesman to whom we are indebted for the passing of that judgment, which has finally decided the whole case. There he is sitting in this House as an honoured leader of an important group in the Senate. He, a Protestant, he who is personally opposed to denominational schools, saw the justice of our contentions, he saw the necessity of upholding the constitution, and with the uprightness which characterizes him, he had the remedial order passed. To him also and to his friends around him we owe the only serious attempt that has been made to relieve the minority of the distress under which it is labouring.

That remedial order cannot be altered, or modified or withdrawn. The Governor General in Council cannot pass any Order in Council that would modify or destroy that first remedial order; and unless the Imperial parliament interferes that order will stand for ever.

Hon. Mr. BOULTON—Did not the legislation of the province of Manitoba close the question?

Hon. Mr. BERNIER—No, not at all; it left the question as open as ever, because no local legislation can do away with the remedial order unless it completely complies with such remedial order.

Hon. Mr. BOULTON—That legislation of the province of Manitoba was at the desire, or on the instructions of the Governor General in Council and was a settlement between the Governor General in Council and the province of Manitoba on the remedial order.

Hon. Mr. BERNIER—It was at the desire of the government, I do not contradict that; but I say the desire of the government in that respect did not comply with the judgment which the Governor General in Council had before passed and consequently their action, as well as the action of the local legislature, is absolutely inadequate. As a matter of fact, this action far from being adequate to the requirements of the remedial order is the very reverse and would be substantially the destruction of the remedial order of 1895, which this government or any other government have no right and no power to do.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—Where did the hon. gentleman obtain the information that there was an Order in Council agreeing to any such arrangement? If my recollection is correct the Secretary of State informed me at the time that there were no records at all, and that everything that was done was simply by conversation.

Hon. Mr. BOULTON—The hon. leader of the opposition knows that a commission was sent to the province of Manitoba to negotiate with the provincial government.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—By whom?

Hon. Mr. BOULTON—By the government of which the hon. gentleman was a member.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—I thought the hon. gentleman was referring to the action of the present government.

Hon. Mr. BOULTON—I am referring now to the fact that the government, of which the hon. gentleman was a member, if not the leader, sent a commission for the