

out hope of redress. The events of the last few days have so intensified the situation, that we disclaim all further responsibility in this connection. That a very large amount will be transferred this week is absolutely certain, owing to the defeat of the two English candidates for the office of School Trustee in the election of April 25th, and the probable passing of the debentures, on April 29th.

We understand that Your Grace is leaving on May 1st for your *ad limina* visit to Rome. We appeal to you to make an official, public and comprehensive pronouncement on this School question before you leave. It were sad indeed, to leave here in Ottawa the largest set of Catholic Schools in Canada, outside of Montreal and Quebec, and to find on your return this set of Schools disrupted and bankrupt. It would be the most serious blow Catholic education ever received in Ontario. We feel that the present is too critical a moment to be left without the firm hand of the ruler of the Diocese. If you the Archbishop cannot save the Separate Schools of Ottawa they are doomed.

We have the honour to subscribe ourselves,

Your Grace's most obedient servants,

Signed:

"R. MACKELL."
"J. F. LANIGAN."
"JAMES FINN."
"M. J. O'NEILL."
"H. F. SIMS."
"A. J. BRENNAN."

Separate School Trustees.

Signed:

"THOMAS SMITH."
"F. D. HENDERSON."
"P. J. NOLAN." *Secretary.*
"SAMUEL CROSS."
"M. H. FAGAN."
"R. A. BILSBOROUGH."
"A. M. POWERS."
"WILLIAM RYDER."
"JOHN J. LYONS."

Members of the Separate School Committee.

VI.

Archbishop's Palace,
OTTAWA, April 30th, 1914.

TO MEMBERS OF THE SEPARATE SCHOOL BOARD AND
SEPARATE SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

Dear Sirs,

In reply to your letter of the 27th inst., you will kindly permit me to inform you that you overestimate the powers possessed by the Bishops of this Province with respect to the settlement of difficulties such as you refer to.

With much respect, I remain,

Yours faithfully in Dno,

(Sgd.) C. H. AEP. OF OTTAWA.

VII.

OTTAWA, May 14th, 1914.

OST REV. CHARLES HUGH GAUTHIER, D. D.,
Archbishop of Ottawa,
Collegio Canadese, Rome.

Your Grace,—

We were surprised to learn that the matters referred to in our letter of the 27th ult., which are all religious, do not fall within the scope of your authority. Since we have over-estimated the powers possessed by Your Grace, we trust you will lay the matter before the Roman Congregations which are certainly competent. It would facilitate greatly the solution of the Ottawa and Ontario school question if the Roman Congregations saw fit to pass judgment on the fundamental principle of French-Canadian Nationalism, namely: "The English language is for French Canadians approximate occasion for the mortal sin of apostasy". That is the theory that is used by "Le Droit" of Ottawa (see, e.g., issue May 13th, 1914), and by the French clergy to make it a religious obligation, even for English speaking Catholics, to resist constituted authority.