

ernment caused Canadian policy to seek trade with Europe, South America and the West Indies.

A commission was despatched in 1865 to South American nations with good results. The Maritime Provinces that before had purchased flour in the States now sought that article in the markets of Upper Canada. The merchants of the United States began soon to feel the loss of trade from its effects on the monied institutions of their land. United States politicians, eager for revenge on account of their inability to reach Canada by abrogation of the treaty, excited Fenians to make raids along the border. The chiefs of that secret society of Irish revolutionists had an understanding with prominent men in public life in the United States. This society prepared in secret its armed hands for future service in the cause of Ireland against the tranquillity of Canada.

The U. S. politicians had thought that the abrogation of this treaty, which took place March 17, 1866, would ruin the trade of Canada, and create a desire among Canadians for annexation to the States, for the purpose of enjoying the liberties of commerce with a great market.

There was another reason more potent than the mere addition to the national territory, working with the politicians of the North. They desired to gain Canada to the northern section of the States so as to enable them to overbalance by number of representatives, the influence of the Southern States in the general government. The Southern States to prevent the increase of the northern democracy, were as determined to oppose the entrance of Canada as a part of the American Union.

But Canada's imperial relations have added to her a greater prosperity and dignity than could be derived from any connection with the Yankees. And, indeed, connection with the Yankees would be the ruin of Canada.

CHAPTER XV.

PUBLIC SCHOOL TROUBLES IN THE WEST.

While victory had come, although with slow step, but firm, to spread the aegis

over the Imperialist party, not only in Canada, but throughout the United States and Australia, lower down, from distant Manitoba, from localities in Quebec and New Brunswick, where religious rights were rampant, issued rumors of political violence and disaffection.

The ecclesiastical order of most churches believe that power over mankind increased with control over the young of each generation. The aged may be left to themselves, but the young never. The vexation of the church in this way over education of children has excited the alarm of those who are in freedom of thought, especially since the institution of the public school system. Parents living in fanatical communities on account of religious control over the public schools of those communities are forced either to send their children to such schools, or, they must form other schools at their own private expense. In secular communities, no religious tenets are taught in the public schools, but so soon as the community becomes extremely religious, behold! the catechism is the chief hook of instruction. According to the Catholic Dictionary the Catholic Church is the highest authority in education. With her sanction it should be commenced and under her superintendence continued, for were her intervention to be excluded at any stage, there would be danger that those under education come to mistake one of the subordinate ends of man for his main end." According to it, the claims of the state "become unjust and oppressive when, ignoring the still more sacred right of the church to secure in education the attainment of man's highest end, it compels or tempts Catholics to place their children in schools which ecclesiastical authority has not sanctioned." It is declared further that "the study of religion should hold the first place and dominate all others."

At the time when Canada was ceded by France to England in 1763, the papal influence over the court of France secured in the treaty the proviso that church functions should be maintained. The result has been that, in the Province of Quebec, the church has a complete authority over the schools as before the transfer. Control is vested in a committee of bishops and laymen. The non-Catholic schools of the province are in charge of a Protestant commission. In the Catholic schools most of the teachers are from the religious orders, who have been teaching without certificate,