

provocation, assume the attitude of dogged determination not to consider any representations that might be made to them in respect of the grievances of our Roman Catholic fellow-citizens of Manitoba, and, to make clear this point, permit me to read a few passages from the resolutions of the Manitoba Legislature in answer to the remedial order :—

MANITOBA'S ANSWER.

"We believe, when the remedial order was made, there was not available then to your Excellency in Council full and accurate information as to the working of our former system of schools. We also believe that there was lacking the means of forming a correct judgment as to the effect upon the Province of changes in the direction indicated in the order, and, being impressed with this view, we respectfully submit that it is not too late to make a full and deliberate investigation of the whole subject. Should such a course be adopted we shall cheerfully assist in affording the most complete information available. An investigation of such a kind would furnish substantial basis of fact upon which conclusions could be formed with a reasonable degree of certainty. It is urged most strongly that upon so important a matter, involving as it does the religious feeling and convictions of different classes of the people of Canada and the educational interests of the Province, which is expected to become one of the most important in the Dominion, no hasty action should be taken, but that, on the contrary, the greatest care and deliberation should be exercised and a full and thorough investigation made."

And then, after some further reference to the order, the Legislature of Manitoba proceeds to say :—

"Nothing could be more unfortunate from the standpoint of the Roman Catholic people themselves than any hasty or peremptory action on the part of the Parliament of Canada, because such action would probably produce strained relations, and tend to prevent the possibility of restoring harmony. We respectfully suggest to your Excellency in Council that all the above considerations call most strongly for full and careful deliberation and for such a course of action as will avoid irritating complications.

"We deem it also proper to call attention to the fact that it is only a few months since the latest decision upon the subject was given by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. Previous to that time the majority of the members of the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba had expressly or impliedly given pledges to their constituents, which they feel in honor bound loyally to fulfil. We understand that it has been lately suggested that private funds of the Roman Catholic Church and people have been invested in school buildings and land that are now appropriated for Public school purposes. No evidence of such fact has ever been laid before us, so far as we