

lies of Lower Canada, and to the Roman Catholics of Upper Canada, the Lower Canada majority and the Upper Canada minority, no doubt, relied on the

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to maintain the guarantee on the faith of which the new Constitution became a possibility and was agreed to. In view of all these facts, British statesmen would deem it a point of honour to refuse the repeal; not ten men in the British Parliament would support a repeal; it would not be considered worthy of discussion. Lord Salisbury, the present Premier, has had trouble enough now with Ireland—

MR. MEREDITH.—You are not going to threaten us with a Home Rule vote?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.—No, nor with anything else. But you know that every word I am saying is true. The Honorable gentleman, Mr. Mowat continued, is a good lawyer, and has respect for his professional reputation, which some others have not, and will not dispute what I have stated. It is perfectly certain that Lord Salisbury would not consent to add to his present troubles by passing a repealing Act in the face of the opposition which would be given to it; not to speak of the other facts I have mentioned. So with Mr. Gladstone and his followers, who are allies of the Home Rule party in order to assist in getting for Ireland the great reforms needed there. There is thus not the smallest chance of such a measure being passed by the Imperial Parliament. "The Separate Schools are a fact in our Constitution," said the Attorney General, "and we have to accept it whether we now like it or not. I would be deceiving the people, I would be deceiving my Protestant friends, if I should express a different view. Knowing what I do, it is my duty to bring to public attention, and press home upon all, the real state of the case." In view of these facts, it is plain that the only practical purpose which a cry for the abolition of Separate Schools can serve, the only effect the cry can have is that it may be useful as a political cry for hon. gentlemen opposite; for any other practical purpose it is of no use at all.

Continuing, the Attorney-General said that he had personally been to a certain extent, and up to a certain time, a party to Confederation. He was a party to the Quebec resolutions that had preceded Confederation, but was not in Parliament for some years subsequently, being on the Bench and out of political life.

MR. MEREDITH.—You had withdrawn for a season. (Ironical Opposition Cheers.)