

By the Honourable Sir Mackenzie Bowell, K.C.M.G. :—

1896.

3 September 30—That he will call the attention of the Minister of Justice to the following letter alleged to have been written by Mr. Petit, the defeated candidate at the last Dominion Election, in the County of Terrebonne :—

“ I have received from the Department of Public Works, at Ottawa, a letter informing me that you are a tenderer for the supply of \_\_\_\_\_ for the public buildings at \_\_\_\_\_. As your tender is the same as that of another firm, they write to ask me to whom the contract must be given. I now write to know what you intend to do for me in this matter. I will await your reply. Business is business, as you know.”

And will inquire whether it is the intention of the Government to take steps to have the writer of the said letter prosecuted under the provisions of paragraph (f) of article 133 of the Criminal Code, which reads as follows :—

“ Everyone is guilty of an indictable offence and liable to a fine of not less than one hundred dollars, and not exceeding one thousand dollars, and to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year, and not less than one month, and in default of payment of such fine to imprisonment for a further time not exceeding six months, who by reason of, or under the pretence of, possessing influence with the Government, or with any minister or official thereof, demands, exacts, or receives from any person any compensation, fee or reward, for procuring from the Government the payment of any claim, or of any portion thereof, or for procuring or furthering the appointment of himself, or of any other person, to any office, place, or employment, or for procuring or furthering the obtaining for himself, or any other person, of any grant, lease, or other benefit from the Government.”

By the Honourable Mr. Bernier :—

4 October 1—That he will inquire : 1. Whether any definite arrangement has been made, or agreement entered into, between the Government of the Dominion of Canada and the Manitoba Government, by which a settlement of the School question has or can be effected?

2. Whether in the negotiations having in view a settlement of the School question in Manitoba the minority, whose educational interests would be affected, were in any way consulted?

3. Whether such agreement, if any exists, has the approval of such minority, or of some parties connected with the same, or pretending to speak on their behalf; and if so, who are the parties approving such agreement?

By the Honourable Sir Mackenzie Bowell, K.C.M.G. :—

5 October 1—That he will inquire whether, if no settlement of the Manitoba School question has not been effected or agreement reached between the Dominion and Manitoba Governments, is it the intention of the Government to carry out the promise made by the Premier in the different speeches made by him, to appoint a Commission with the Honourable Sir Oliver Mowat at its head, to investigate and report upon the claims of the minority in that province, for the restoration of the rights of which they have been deprived? If so, when?