

# EVENTS

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## *The Separate School Agitation.*

**W**E have refrained from expressing any opinion on the educational clauses of the Autonomy Bill so far, until the subject was studied and threshed out. Marked attention was called to the question on Wednesday by the resignation of Mr. Sifton the minister of the Interior, who retired from the Laurier Administration ostensibly because he could not support or defend the clauses of the bill.

It is not difficult to understand Mr. Sifton's action on the hypothesis that he was looking for an excuse to get out. He has in fact had it in his mind for two years to retire from the cabinet. But aside from this he has been the administrator of the Territories for over seven years, and made no protest against the separate schools when they were confirmed in the Act consolidating the educational Ordinances of the Territories. This bill does more than continue the system sanctioned by the local authorities. It is contended that the question should be left to the new provinces. There has never been any agitation among the people of the new provin-



HON. CLIFFORD SIFTON.