

mention, were assigned to the exclusive jurisdiction of the Local Legislature; the Roman Catholics of another Province were to have nothing to do with them; a Protestant Legislature in this Protestant Province of Ontario was to have exclusive cognizance of its educational laws, subject to the one restriction referred to. Thus the Public Schools of this Province, in which all Protestants had a common interest, were secured against encroachments from another Province. In return for these great reforms in our Constitution, Upper Canada consented to leave Roman Catholics with their Separate Schools, the absolute abolition of which Mr. Brown had so long vainly endeavoured to procure; the Local Legislature of any Province was not to have power to abolish the denominational schools therein, or to pass any law which should prejudicially affect any right or privilege with respect to denominational schools which any class of persons then had by the existing laws. This provision which made safe the Roman Catholic Separate Schools of Ontario from the Protestant majority there, made safe also the Protestant Schools of Quebec from the Roman Catholic majority in Quebec. The Public Schools of Ontario and the Protestant Schools of Quebec were thus alike made secure; and as regards Ontario there was no longer a possibility of future encroachments from another Province where another creed predominates. That this was the best that could be done in the direction desired by Mr. Brown and Protestant Upper Canada, was manifest then, and to every thoughtful man informed of the facts must be manifest now. The new Constitution had the hearty concurrence of both Provinces, and the warfare which Mr. Brown had conducted with so much ability and energy came to an end. In a letter written and published three or four years afterwards, Mr. Brown thus describes the evils, and the danger, against which he had fought, and which the new Constitution had removed:—

“ Although much less numerous than the people of Upper Canada, and contributing to the common purse hardly a fourth of the annual revenue of the united Provinces, the Lower Canadians sent an equal number of representatives with the Upper Canadians to Parliament, and by their unity of action obtained complete dominancy in the management of public affairs. Acting on the well-known adage, “*Nous avons l'avantage, profitons-en!*” the French Canadians turned the divisions among Upper Canadians to their own advantage in every possible way. Unjust and injurious legislation, waste and extravagance in every public department, increased debt and heavier taxation were the speedy consequences, until the credit of the country was seriously imperilled.”

The new constitution did not do as much as was hoped in preventing these evils as regards matters assigned to Dominion juris-