

in the issue of April 11th, 1914.) The particular object of their voltairian spite is Mgr. Fallon, O. M. I., Bishop of London. In a particularly irreligious article, bordering on blasphemy, entitled "Une bien triste page", published in "Le Droit" of April 15th, Bishop Fallon is accused of being the moral assassin of the French race, and like the Pharisees of the time of Christ, seeking to destroy them. It is incomprehensible to us as Catholics that a paper posing as a Catholic one is allowed by Your Grace to publish such irreligious literature, utterly subversive to all religious authority, and that it has never received the slightest public reprimand; it is incomprehensible to us that a priest of this city is permitted by Your Grace to edit such a paper. Its constant insults to the English speaking Catholics of Ottawa, is simply driving English speaking Catholics out of the Separate Schools. One of the most scurrilous in his insults to English speaking laymen, priests and bishops, is the noted French anticlerical Mr. Genest, who is the Chairman of the Separate School Board, and whose course is approved of by "Le Droit" and the French clergy.

There is a fourth factor, also a most disturbing one, which could be entirely controlled by Your Grace: we refer to the illegal defiance of the Government Inspector by the French school children, teachers and trustees, a campaign started and continued by French priests. Among the school rooms where a placard of defiance of the Government is posted, are those of Your Grace's cathedral parish. The objection is not to the Inspector as a Protestant, but as an Englishman. If the French desire larger concessions as regards the teaching of French, there are constitutional means at hand. We protest against the present illegal plan of campaign (see Instruction 18 of the Department of Education) which defies the Government and jeopardizes the Separate School system. Is the only system of Separate Schools which we have or can get in Ontario to be destroyed by French Priests? And is Your Grace going to remain silent while this is going on? It is true Mr. Genest claims to have your approval for his defiance of the Government, but in this we do not believe him. We fail to see how English speaking Catholics can be called on in conscience to support a system of Government schools which French Priests are openly trying to destroy, if all the French they want be not taught in them. Is each Priest free to defy the Government and its laws whenever it seems to him those laws are unfair, or is this Diocese going to be ruled in this most important matter by its Bishop?

The fifth factor is a pressing financial one. It is proposed to raise debentures for the sum of \$275,000.00 on April 29th. Despite the present financial stringency, despite the lack of credit of the Ottawa Separate School Board due to its defiance of the Government, despite the enormous debt that is already on the Separate School property and the unnatural size of the Separate School tax—(twice as great as the Public School rate), the French Trustees and those English Trustees elected by French votes are determined to force on those debentures. The English speaking Catholics who pay more than the French object to the debentures. An exodus of English speaking supporters to the public schools and financial bankruptcy are the probable results of the passing of this by-law. We appeal to Your Grace to stop this frenzied finance. If a Bishop has a right to oblige a Catholic in conscience to support the Separate School system, surely he has a right to see that the Separate School affairs are being properly conducted. If the Separate School supporter is under the jurisdiction of the Bishop, is the Separate School Trustee. If the Bishop is unable to maintain control over the School Board, hundreds of Catholic ratepayers will consider that they are no longer bound by the obligation of supporting such a system, as, in that case, it is no longer a Catholic system.

The sixth and last factor to which we wish to call Your Grace's attention is the result of the above five: The exodus of English speaking Catholics to the Public Schools. Disgusted with the campaign of slander which has been allowed to continue unchecked, despairing of having their interests safeguarded, seeing the Separate School system undermined by French Priests for language reasons, and their property in danger of being deeply mortgaged, numerous English speaking Catholics have already transferred their School taxes to the Public Schools. Already on January 1st, 1914, 10 per cent of the total Catholic assessment of Ottawa had been transferred by English speaking Catholics to the Public Schools. But this is great danger that about 50 per cent of the remainder may be transferred within the next four weeks.

We have been successful during the past four months, in restraining English speaking Catholics from going over in a body to the Public Schools, by holding