

characterized by prudence, good taste, and moderation. He (Mr. SMITH) could also bear testimony to the extreme moderation which had been characteristic of the hon. member when, for many years, they had been associated in the Parliament of New Brunswick. But while admitting all this, he could not help regretting extremely that one of the representatives of his own Province, one of his own colleagues, should feel called upon to ask this Parliament to strike down with ruthless hand one of the bulwarks of the Constitution of our Dominion, and deprive the people of the rights which were accorded them under it. If an hon. gentleman from anywhere outside of the Province had attempted such a thing, he could understand it. The power of regulating her own educational laws was one secured to New Brunswick by the compact of Confederation, it was one she possessed fully and completely before; and yet his hon. friend, in the name of religion, in the name of those whom he asserted to be persecuted, proposed that this House should do that which would be ignoring all Provincial rights. Did not the Constitution reserve rights for all the people—rights for the Catholics as well as rights for the Protestants? Why, then, did his hon. friend talk of the rights of the Catholics and ignore those of the Protestants? If the motion of his hon. friend were carried, and if it rectified what his hon. friend believed to be a wrong in New Brunswick, would it not open the way to greater wrongs than that it righted? he would set a precedent which was just as dangerous to the existing rights and liberties of Roman Catholics throughout the Dominion as it was to those of the Protestants of New Brunswick. On behalf of the 200,000 Protestants of New Brunswick, he entered his humble protest against the proposed interference with their rights. He was proud to say that he looked around this House and saw many of his Roman Catholic fellow-countrymen who admitted the justice of sustaining the rights and privileges of the Province of New Brunswick, who fully appreciated the danger of destroying the integrity of the Constitution, and who had independence enough to declare their sentiments before this House. He was himself no bigot, and had never been. He had the fullest sym-

pathy with the Catholics. The hon. member for Terrebonne expressed himself in favor of sectarian schools; he (Mr. SMITH) had no hesitation in saying that he was not in favor of them. What would his hon. friend say if the rights secured to the Catholics of Ontario under the Constitution were proposed to be interfered with? He would certainly resist any such attempt, and he could tell his hon. friend that in that respect they would both be found voting together to support the Constitution, although in regard to separate schools their convictions were entirely opposite. He could tell his hon. friend that, while entertaining the very greatest respect for him, he thought the policy he was pursuing a dangerous one. Suppose, as an example, that his hon. friend's policy in regard to the criminals of the North-West had prevailed, the result would have been that RIEL would to-day have been wandering an outcast upon the face of the earth, instead of being merely deprived of his rights for five years. He stated on behalf of the Protestants of New Brunswick and on behalf of some of the Catholics too, that they claimed the preservation of the Constitution in its integrity. They were a proud and spirited people, and would stand by their rights. They felt that the Province of Ontario was great and powerful, and being powerful they felt the utmost assurance that she (Ontario) would permit no injustice to be done to them. The proposition of his hon. friend to ask the Imperial Parliament to pass a School Law for New Brunswick was absolutely preposterous, and no result could come of it. The Legislature of New Brunswick was just now looking to this Parliament, having the utmost confidence that their rights would be respected.

The members were then (at 11-20) called in. The House divided on the amendment to the amendment, which was carried on the following division:—

YEAS :

Messieurs

Archibald,
Aylmer,
Bain,
Béchar, d
Bernier,
Bertram,
Biggar,
Blackburn,
Blair,

Killam,
Lafamme,
Lajoie,
Landerkin,
Langlois,
Laurier,
Macdonald (Cornwall),
Macdonald (Glenagarry),
Macdougall (Elgin),