

## RESOLUTIONS

AND PETITION TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL-  
IN-COUNCIL RE JESUITS ESTATE  
ACT.

At a meeting of the Evangelical Alliance of the Dominion of Canada held in Montreal Oct. 22nd to 25th, 1888, the following resolutions were passed:

1. "The Evangelical Alliance in conference assembled, representing the various Protestant denominations throughout the Dominion, avails itself of the present opportunity to record its decided disapproval of the recent legislative action in the Province of Quebec, in appropriating to the Society of Jesus the sum of four hundred thousand dollars, taken out of the funds which came into the public exchequer over one hundred years ago, and have hitherto been available for the purposes of general education throughout the Province, without respect to creed or nationality.

2. "This Alliance is of opinion that the Provincial Legislature by previously investing with corporate power this long defunct order, whose career has been so inimical to the best interests of mankind, and which all civilized people (Roman Catholics included) have united in condemning and expelling, and by now endowing this order with public funds has adopted a course prejudicial to civil and religious lib-

erty, and in a mixed community like ours calculated to entail consequences which it is most desirable to avoid.

3. "This Alliance is likewise of opinion that the Society of Jesus, being confessedly a religious organization, its endowment in this way is at variance with those principles of religious equality now happily established in this Dominion.

4. "This Alliance, while fully recognizing the right of the Protestant minority to its full share of the public funds for educational purposes, cordially sympathizes with our brethren of the Province of Quebec, who distinctly repudiate, as a part of this arrangement with the Society of Jesus, the appropriation of sixty thousand dollars to the Protestant Committee of Public Instruction.

5. "This Alliance would also strongly protest against those provisions of the Jesuits' Estates Act which make the distribution of the public money of the Province dependent upon the will of the Pope, and agreements of the government with any society under the Queen's government subject to his ratification.

6. "The Evangelical Alliance hereby remits to its Executive Committee to take such steps in the premises, at its earliest convenience, and as to its wisdom may seem meet, in order to give practical effect to the foregoing deliverance."

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 PETITION

To His Excellency the Right Honorable Frederick A. Stanley, Baron Stanley of Preston, G. C. B., Governor-General of the Dominion of Canada, in Council.

*The Petition of the Undersigned Humbly Sheweth:*

THAT WHEREAS, at a meeting of the EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE FOR THE DOMINION OF CANADA, held in the City of Montreal in the month of October, in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight, certain matters touching the interests of the several Protestant Churches were taken into serious consideration, among which was "THE ACT RESPECTING THE JESUITS' ESTATES," passed by the Legislature of the Province of Quebec, and assented to on the 12th of July, 1888,—now lying before Your Excellency in Council for consideration;

AND WHEREAS, "the estates of that [the Jesuit] Order were originally granted by the King of France for the purpose of educating the natives of the country," and the Jesuits were merely depositaries thereof for the purposes of the education of the youth of the Province:"

AND WHEREAS, the Order of the Jesuits was suppressed in France in 1761, and its property taken by the King for the purposes of education;

AND WHEREAS, the Royal instructions to the Governor-General of Canada in 1774 directed "that the Society of the Jesuits should be suppressed and dissolved, and no longer continue a Body corporate and politic, and that all their rights, privileges, and property should be vested in the Crown;"