the Cathelic laity to be modified, and a Government but hitherto altogether re-Catholics of Manitoba, that the minor-the dealt with with as much courtesy as pugnant to the whole Catholic community had no rights, no grievances, no in the past, the minority does not ty is to be declared acceptable. This yarn ty is to be declared acceptable. This yarn improbability, but of virtual impossibili- to alter the principle of the legislation ty, inasmuch as it supposes not only that of the Manitoba government to the Mr. Laurier will go back on his promises number of Manitoba Catholics who have call your attention, hon. gentlemen, to so far been loyal and true to their prin- this mesage. It had been transmitted ciples and who have time and again put to the Lieutenant-Governor, with the themselves on record as determined to of Catholic rights, will basely and treacherously desert the cause with which they have been so honorably identified for six long years and declare themselves before the people of Canada to be nothing more than a band of time-serving hypocritical politicians. This, as we have said, seems to us not only improbable, but impossible.

But, after all, our greatest assurances that the rumours we have referred to are baseless is grounded on the fact that both the Hon. Mr. Laurier and the Hon. Mr. Tarte are Catholic statesmen and there fore know that such a "settlement" as the newspapers allege could never be accepted by the Catholics of Manitoba. These rumours could not gain currency for one moment if the ordinary Protestant mind could grasp what Catholics understand true education to consist of. Mr. Laurier and Mr. Tarte both know that an hour a day set apart in public schools for religious instruction would be almost as unsatisfactory as the present system They know that it often happens that whole days pass by in one school without a moment being taken up in definite religious teaching, while, on the other hand, the subject-matter of reading or history lessons may call for a dozen rel igious comments in one day; and know that what Cat olics want and must have is a system under which they may enjoy their own schools wherein secular and religious training will go nand in hand and the whole of the work will be permeated with that true, Christian, Catholic influence under which alone the mental and moral faculties of the rising generation can attain their fullest and most beneficial development, and which it is impossible to find in mixed schools.

We venture to think therefore that when the actual terms of the arrangebe found to be very different to those alleged in the reports now published daily. If they are not we have only to say they right and justice on their side, they have as it were. a decision of the highest Court in the Empire in their layor, they have the prominent member of the legislature. sympathy of the vast majority of the did offer to the consideration of that Electorate of Canada, and for all these declare that it wasreasons it may be taken for granted there will be no settlement until their rights under the Constitution are far as possible, consistent with that trestored in "their fullness and entirey."

(Continued from page 1).

minion at large, and that it is a matter of the utmost importance to the people of Canada that the laws which prevail in any portion of the Dominion should not be such as to occasion complaint of oppression or injustice to any class or portion of the people, but should be recognized as establishing perfect freedom and equality, especially in all matters relating to religion and religious belief and practice; and the committee thereupon humbly advise that your Excellency may join with them in expressing the may join with their in the legislatures most earnest hope that the legislatures disposition to enter into negotiations, of Manitoba and of the Northwest that simple suggestion would have re-Territories respectively, may take into consideration at the earliest possible orable consideration. But the repeatmoment the complaints which are set ed rebuffs from the government of Roman Catholics, not only in Mani- to tobe and the Northwest Caratories of the remedial order. And so but likewise throughout Canada, and it was made, and this course may take speedy measures to give re- will ultimately dress in all the matters in relation to all sound minds. In transmitting that which any well founded complaint or remedial order, the Dominion govern-

fact it wa sthe whole nation appeal- peals of the Dominion government reing to the Manitoba government, That ceived the slightest response from the

ties. What was their reply? The resettlement satisfactory to the Greenway ply was again, as in the case of the the provincial authorities were not bears on its face the stamp not only of son for recommending the legislature message of peace sent to them. That was before the issue of the last judgand falsify his record, but also that a ment of the Privy Council. Let me other circumstances connected with request that "he will lay the same before his advisers and before the legisaccept nothing less than a full restoration lature of that province." The local government did not wait for the meeting of the legislature to send their answer. They took upon themselves to decide for the legislature. And as a matter of fact they did not lay that message before the legislature as they had been requested to do. If I am cor rectly informed it has never been laid since before the legislature. Had this communication been laid before the legislative assembly, as it was the duty of the government to do, that body would have received it after the rendering of the second judgment of the Privy Council. For the assembly met on the 14th of February, 1895, and the judgment had been delivered on the second day of the month. And then, the legislature would have had an opportunity to consider at the same time the judgment and the concilia-tory appeal made to them. Not only that opportunity was refused to the legislature of Manitoba by the government of that province, not only they concealed in their pigeon holes the message of peace they had received for the use of the legislature as well as for their own use, but they put in the mouth of the Lieutenant-Governor in the opening speech the following words:

It has been held that an appeal lies to the Governor General in Council on behalf of the minority of this province, in as much as certain rights and privileges given by prior legislation to the minority in educational matters, had been effected by the public Schools Act of 1890., and that, therefore, the General in Council had Governor power to make remedial orders in relation thereto . . . whether or not a bemand will be made by the federal government that that Act shall be modified is not yet known to my government. . . . It is not the intention of my government in any way to recede from its determination to uphold the present public school system.

At the time that speech from the Throne was delivered, on the 14th February, 1895, there was no remedial order passed, the case had not even been argued; the local government had in their hands the message of peace to which I have referred; that was the time to place it for its consideration before the legislature which then met for the first time after its reception. There was no better opportunity to take advantage of the olive branch Instead of that extended to them. they concealed that message of peace and they sent in return a message of war. While forced to admit that the Catholics were right in their comment are given to the public they will plaints, yet they said again, in the most solemn way that a government can use to speak to the country, they said again that they would not comply with the requirements of justice. They said in effect that they did not want will prove to be no settlement of the dif- to be approached in a conciliatory ficulty. The Catholics of Manitoba have but a remedial order, they courted it,

That is not all. mediat

Ready to consider the grievances referred to with a view to providing reasonable relief while maintaining as object, the principles of the resent

Act in their general application. A more moderate solution could certainly not be introduced, yet the government of Manitoba refused to accept the same and caused the following to be accepted as an amendment:

That this House will by all means and to the utmost extent of its power resist any steps which may be taken to attack the present system.

After that, when the appeal was argued before His Excellency the Governor General in Council, the Mantdeclared again toba government through their solicitor, that they would resist any attempt to relieve the minority from their grievances. Had at this last moment the government of Manitoba hinted the least ed rebuffs from the government of forth in this petition, and which are Manitoba left to His Excellency the said to create dissatisfaction among Governor General in Council no other than the follow making be approved by grievance be ascertained to exist.

Could any words more appropriate to the occasion, more respectful to the Manitoba authorities, be used to call Manitoba authorities, be used to call ute of the council in which an urgent their earnest attention to the alleged request was made to the Manitoba augrievances? Could an appeal to their thorities to deal themselves with the sense of justice he made in more tem- question so as not to run the risk of perate words? And mark, this was an permanently divesting themselves of appeal in which His Excellency joined their authority in educational matters, with his government and with the but neither the conciliatory appeals of representatives of the minority! In the minority, nor the conciliatory ap-

Archbishop is to be defied, the claims of conciliatory order in council was duly Manitoba government. In face of all transmitted to the Manitoba authori- those facts it is idle, nay more, it is perversion of the truth to say that must be remembered that matters of conscience cannot be decided by year and nays. And since the constitution as read by the highest trbunal of the empire, upholds our rights, we cannot be expected to shrink from the duty imposed upon us by the law of the land as citizens, and by the law of nature as parents.

another aspect of the question which calls for some remarks, but I have spoken at too great a length to permit me to deal with it extensively. I refer to the proposed commission of investigation. That idea seems now to be abandoned, and very properly so. Yet I desire to state very briefly some of the reasons for which this commission should not be appoin<mark>ted</mark>.

If it is proposed by this commission to investigate the conditions of the entry of our province into confedera tion, it is useless, because the first judgment has determined whatever rights we contended to have in that respect. That judgment cannot be re-

If it is proposed to enquire into the fights we may have acquired since the union, it is useless also, because the second judgment has determined these rights ,and no commission can reverse that judgment.

If it is proposed to inquire into the working of our schools previous to 1890, it is useless, because the question at present is not a matter of discipline, regulations or administration, but a matter of right. It is the very existence of the schools that is at stake. management of our schools, whether good or bad, would not change our right to have the schools themselves.

If it is proposed to inquire whether the schools under the new law are Protestant or not, it is again useless because the question is not whether the schools are Protestant or not, but whether the Catholic schools have been wiped out. This the second judgment decides in the affirmative.

The government of Manitoba have themselves declared such an investigation useless. In their answer to the Order in Council of 1894, they said:

The questions which are raised by the report now under consideration have been the subject of most voluminous discussion in the legislature of Manitoba buring the past four years. All of the statements made in the memorial addressed to His Excellency Governor General, and many others, have been repeatedly made to and considered by the legislature. Under these circumstances, the executive of the province see no reason for recommending the legislature to alter the principle of the legislation

Moreover, this investigation could not at present be impartial, as too

and amongst men, many of whom have nowdisappeared. It would cause more irritation than good, and whatever good could be accomplished by that inquiry would be still better accomplished by an amicable conference between all interested parties.

Grand Deputies for Manitoba.

Rev. A. A. Cherrier and Dr. J. K. Barrett, Winnipeg, Man.

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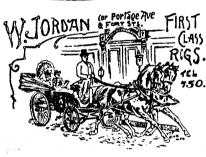
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