

ents to catch Protestant votes, is falsehood and folly. There has been no selling, and no buying; no dictating; no demanding; no subserviency; no unjust or unjustifiable legislation; no conspiracy; no price agreed on for the Roman Catholic vote; no agreement of any kind for the Roman Catholic or any other vote. I HAVE DENIED EMPHATICALLY THE CHARGES AGAINST US OF SUBSERVIENCY, CONSPIRACY AND LIKE CRIMES IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHURCH OF ROME, and you will mark this difference between the assertions of our adversaries and my denial. They cannot pretend to know the things which they assert; I KNOW THAT THE FACTS ARE AS I STATE THEM TO YOU. * * AS TO DICTATION BY ROMAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS, IF THERE HAD BEEN ANY ATTEMPT OR A CLAIM TO DICTATE, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN RESENTED BY US. BUT THERE HAS BEEN NOTHING OF THE KIND TO RESENT. IF I HAD HAD IN LEGISLATION OR ADMINISTRATION TO YIELD TO DICTATES AND DEMANDS AS THE PRICE OF WHATEVER ROMAN CATHOLIC OR OTHER SUPPORT THE LIBERAL PARTY RECEIVED, THE GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE COME TO AN END LONG SINCE. IT WOULD HAVE COME TO AN END, BECAUSE I WOULD NOT HOLD OFFICE ON ANY SUCH TERMS. * * As for the offices given to Roman Catholics, it is not true that an excessive share has gone to Roman Catholics, or that the offices they have got have been given to them on the dictation or demand of their Bishops or clergy. On the contrary, the aggregate value of the offices to which Roman Catholics have been appointed is less, not more, than the proportion which Roman Catholics bear to the whole population of the Province. * * * Then as to the supposed influence of the bishops and clergy in the appointments made, this is the bugbear of our opponents' present tactics; but the fact is, that the Roman Catholics appointed are invariably selected by ourselves or by the local member, just as the Protestants appointed are selected by ourselves or by the local member, and adopted by us. Roman Catholic appointees are no more the choice of their bishops or clergy than Protestant appointees are the choice of theirs. I doubt if one appointee in ten, or perhaps one in twenty, of either class has had a recommendation or certificate of bishop, clergyman or minister, Roman Catholic or Protestant. We sometimes receive such recommendations, and far more of them from Protestant clergymen than from Roman Catholic. We are glad to receive them from either, especially when the applicant is not known to us personally. The recommendation or certificate of the clergyman, Protestant or