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The Catholic Record.

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REV. GEORGE R. NORTHGRAVES THOMAS COFFEY. Publisher and Proprietor, Thomas Coffey.

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LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION.

UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA.
Ottawa, Canada, March 7th, 1900,
the Editor of The Catholic Record,
London, Ont:
Dear Sir: For some time pass I have read
gour estimable paper, The Catholic Record,
and congratulate you upon the manner in
which it is published.

lis matter and form are both good; and a truly Catholic spirit pervades the whole. Therefore, with pleasure, I can recommend it to the faithful, Blessing you and seing you and wishing you success, Believe me, to remain Bellove me. to remain,
Yours faithfully in Jesus Christ,
† D FALCONIO, Arch, of Lariesa
Apost, Deleg.

LONION, SATURDAY, MAY 13, 1905.

THE AUTONOMY BILL PASSED

The debate on the Autonomy Bill was carried on with scarcely any intermission down to Friday evening, May 3rd, at a quarter before midnight when the division bell rang to summon the members to record their votes. Ninety four members had delivered speeches on the question on both sides, the number of speakers on each side being nearly equal. At 10 minutes after midnight the clerk announced the result. which, as was expected, showed a very decisive majority against Mr. Borden's amendment, and for the bill as it stands. The yeas on the amendment were 59, and the nays 140, giving a majority of 81 for the bill, or considerably over two to one.

To the credit of the Liberal party it must be said that not a single member of it deserted his colors, from Prince Edward Island to the Yukon, though there were two peculiar cases in connection with the vote from a party aspect. Mr. Leighton McCarthy of North Simcoe voted with the Conservatives for Mr. Borden's amendment. Mr. McCarthy usually supports the Liberal Government, but he was elected as an Independent and not as a Liberal. He prides himself as being the sole representative in the House of the policy of his uncle, the late Mr. Dalton McCarthy, so that he stands there simply as "the nephew of his

The other case is that of Mr. G. H. McIntyre of South Perth. In his speech on the Bill previous to its passage he declared that any legislation which might lead to dissension should be avoided. He admitted that Catho lics have certain vested rights in the North-West, and that in Manitoba their vested rights had been infringed upon, yet he declared himself opposed to the present Bill, and opposed also to Mr. Borden's amendment. He left the impression that he would vote against both, nevertheless when the vote was taken he was counted as against Mr.

Borden's amendment, and for the bill. This arose from a misunderstanding of the usages of Parliament on Mr. McIntyre's part. No actual division of the House took place on the second vote, but it was merely recorded as being the original vote reversed. whereby Mr. McIntyre's vote was recorded against his wish as being in favor of the Bill, whereas he intended to vote against it.

The actual vote recorded was as Collows :

ON MR. BORDEN'S AMENDMENT AND

AGAINST THE BILL : YEAS 59. Alcorn. Jackson (Elgin), Armstrong, Kemp, Lake. Lalor

Avery. Barker, Barr, Lancaster. Bennett. Lennox, Macdonell, Blain, Bland, Bland, Maclaren, Borden (Carleton), Maclean (S. York). McCarthy, (Cal'gy McCarthy (Sime') Marlean (Queen's Martin (Queen's), Broder Chisholm, Caristie, Northrup, Clare, Clements, Reid (Grenville) Cochrane. Cockshutt

Roche, (Marquette Schaffner, Crocket, Daniel. Sproule. Staples, Stockton, Foster, Fowler. Taylor, Tisdale, Ganong, Walsh, Gunp, Haggart, Henderson, Ward Wilson (L. and Ad) Herron, Hughes (Victoria)

Ingram.

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AGAINST MR. BORDEN'S AMENDMENT, AND FOR THE BILL : Finlayson. Adamson,

Beland

Black,

Bureau.

Bergeron,

Bickerdike

NAYS 140 :

Fisher Fitzpatrick, Beauparlant, Forget, Fortier, Galliber, Gauvreau, Geoffrion, Gervais, Grant, Guthrie,

Borden, (Sir Fre Bourassa, Bourbounais. Harty, Harty, Harty, King's, Brodeur. Hughes (Ki P. E. I.) Bruneau, Hunt, Hyman, Burrows, Caldwell, (Selkirk. Jackson, Johnston.

Calvert ohnston, (Cape Breton South.) Campbell, Johnston, (Lamb-Carney, Carvell, ton.) Kennedy, Lachance Clarke. Lanctot, Lapointe, Laurence, Crawford. Cyr, DeLisle, Laurier (Sir Wilfrid), Laurier (L'Assomp Derbyshire, tion).

Desjardins. Devlin, Lavergne Dubeau, mond and Artha baska). Dugas, Lavergne Emmerson, magny). Ethier, Fielding, Law, Leblanc, Finlay, Leonard, Lemieux, Pickup, Prefontaine, Lewis, Pringle, Loggie, Proulx, Reid (Restigouche) Riley, Rivert,

Roche (Halifax),

Ross (Rimouski) Ross (Yale-

Savoie, Schell (Glengarry)

Smith (Nanaimo).

Talbot (B'lechasse)

Wilson (Russell).

Talbot (Strathcona)

Cariboo).

Rousseau,

Scott.

Sifton.

Sloan.

Stewart.

Telford.

Thompson. Tobin.

Targeon.

Vatson.

MacLean (Lunenburg), Macpherson, McColl. McIntyre, McIsaac, McKenzie (Bruce), McKenzie (Cape) McLennan, Marcile (Bagot), Marcil (Bonaven-

ture), Martin (Welling-Marand. Meigs, Miller, Monk. Mulock (Sir Wm.), Oliver, Parmelee, Paterson. Parent.

Government.

Worthington. Wright (Renfrew). Perley. Thirteen Conservatives voted with the majority; of these two were of Ontario-Mr. R. A. Pringle of Cornwall and Stormont, and Mr. Lewis of West Huron. Mr. Thompson, Conser-

vative, of Yukon, also voted with the

One Conservative, Mr. R. N. Walsh of Huntingdon, Quebec, voted with Mr. Borden. He was the only Quebec mem ber who voted with the minority. The other Quebec Conservatives, all of whom voted with the Government, were Messrs. Bergeron, Monk, Morin, Forget, Ames, Paquet, Worthington, Perley, Brabazon, Leonard - ten in number.

There were actually 200 members large attendance, the full house con sisting of 214 members. The fourteen were paired, Mr. German and Hon. Peter White; Mr. Logan and Mr. Lefurgey. Six were absent : one Con-North Waterloo, Ont., and five Liberals, Messrs. Power (who is in Europe) Greenway, Ratz and Gladu, and Mr. Conmee who was suddenly called to sick, not being expected to live. Two sitting members, Hon. Mr. Sutherland Solicitor General, represents two constituencies, but could only give one

It is worthy of remark that independently of the Catholics in the House, the Protestants alone who voted for the Bill would have carried it by a majority of 14, and if the entire vote of Quebec were blotted out, there would still be a majority of 21 in its favor. Thus we see the utter injustice of the cry raised by the Orange wing of the Conservative party that the bill was passed by the solid vote of Quebec. In fact there should be an end of such statements on all occasions. The Confederation of Canada, so far as national matters are concerned, is a Legislative union, and every vote counts at its full value, from whatever province the member comes and whatever may be his race or religion. It is by such cries as this that dissension is kept up; but this is precisely the purpose of the Orange Lodges from which such cries emanate. The members who depend solely upon their popularity with these Lodges are the men who keep up such cries, but many times they have been taught that these racial and creed cries have no Wright (Muskoka. weight with the majority of the people of our Dominion.

The issue on the present occasion was not as these parties have pretended. whether the people of the North-West should be coerced, but whether minorities in Canada should be oppressed by being forced to send their children to schools to which they have a conscientious objection. The people of Canada have answered this negatively by the decisive vote on the Autonomy Bill.

The Toronto Mail and Empire, the News and other journals of this class persist in calling this Bill " a Coercion There is no coercion about it. except so far as it declares that the

local minorities are not to be coerced. By Provinces the vote was as follows:

For the Amendment. Against. Ontario..... 44 Nova Scotia..... P. E. Island..... Manitoba North - West Territories British Columbia..

From these figures it will be seen ho futile is the declaration of the Orangemen that the Autonomy Bill was carried by a solid Quebec. A solid Nova Scotian and British Columbian vote was given for it equally with that of Quebec, where, by the by, there was one discordant note. It will be noticed also that only one Province beside Ontario gave a majority against the Bill. The general sentiment of the country was for freedom of education.

THE ROUTED COERCIONISTS.

It was the advice given by Voltaire to one of his colleagues in the war waged by them upon religion in the middle of the eighteenth century "Lie, lie without scruple, some of it will stick." This advice was followed with great pertinacity, and it was by this means that a combination of unscrupulous writers prepared the way for the terrible revolution in France at the close of that century in which hundreds of thousands of victims were sacrificed to the irreligious frenzy which raged in France during the reign of King Terror.

During the past few weeks, while the Autonomy Bill was being debated in our House of Commons, the Voltarian policy of lying was also pertinaciously followed by the opponents of the Bill, and among the lies used, the most persistent one was that a coercive law was to be imposed upon the new North-West Provinces.

This fiction, the Toronto Mail and Empire endeavors still to keep up, and in the issue of that journal of May 5th there is an article under the title 'Triumphant Coercionists," which for malice and mendacity has rarely peen excelled even by that journal.

The term coercion is always employed to signify that the person coerced is compelled to do something which he may not wish to do. This is implied by all our dictionaries, as it is defined 'compulsion" or "the condition of being under penal restraint." Now let it be examined, who is coerced, compelled, and restrained under the Autonomy Bill? That Bill allows the minorpresent, including Mr. Speaker, who ity in any locality to a limited degree could not vote. This is a remarkably to have schools to which they can conscientiously send their children, and the schools thus established will be absentees are thus accounted for ; four aided by the Governments of the two Provinces to the same extent as Public schools. Thus Protestant or Catholic minorities in any locality will enjoy servative, Mr. Joseph E. Seagram of greater freedom than they would if they were compelled to send their children to the Public schools. The majority in each case will still have their Public schools. and will not be obliged to send their Colorado where his daughter is very children to the schools of the minority. The Autonomy Bills, therefore, are not seats are vacant by the death of the coercive since they restrain no one from doing what he wishes to do. On and Mr. Demers. Mr. Lemieux, the the contrary, they allow greater free dom in the choice of schools.

It is not the question here whether or not it is advisable to have a Separate school system, but solely, "Is a Sep arate school system coercive in its na ture ?" As it increases the freedom of choice, it is clear that it is a gross misrepresentation and falsehood to call such a system coercive. It would be coercion to compel the minority to send their children to the Public schools, or to tax them for the support of Public schools, so long as they send their children to schools of their own choice. The advocates of Mr. Borden's amendment are, therefore, the real coercionists, and the passing of the Autonomy Bill saves those affected from being coerced.

But the Mail and Empire's article does not rest contented with this misrepresentation. It attacks the prin-

ciple of Separate schools in this style : After stating that the Autonomy Bill will "bind the free people of the West forever," we are told that " whether they like it or not, whether the system works well or otherwise, the new Provinces, according to the Laurier ukase, must have a dual educational machine, and the little Protest-

ants and the little Catholics must be kept carefully apart.'

Catholics are not alone in desiring their children to be taught the principles of their religion in the schools The Lutherans are in favor of denominational schools throughout the United States, and the Church of England in Canada has many times put itself upon record as being desirous of the same for their children. In England also, the Established Church makes use of denominational schools, and a considerable majority of the children attend these schools. Other Protestant de nominations would be glad to establish such schools were it not for the fact that they are divided into so many sects as to make it impracticable to have special schools for all, and this is precisely the difficulty which stands in the way of the Church of England; for if this were not the state of the case, no Ontario Government would refuse to grant a united demand from that Church for parochial schools, similar to the Catholic Separate schools of this Province. But Catholics are not thus divided. We know exactly what religious principles we wish to be taught, and it is only on the dog-in-the manger policy that certain parties would deprive Catholics of their natural rights to have schools in which religious teaching forms part of the curriculum, whether it be in Ontario, Manitoba, or

the new provinces of the North West. We admit that it would be desirable that the "little Protestants and the little Catholics" spoken of by the Mail and Empire should be educated in one faith, which is the true faith of Christ; but as this is impossible with the existing diversities of religious belief, Catholics are not willing to be coerced into excluding religion from their schools, simply because the Protestants are not able to agree among themselves as to what religion should be taught by their teachers.

But there is another consideration which presents itself here. It is a wellknown fact that though it is frequently said that the Public schools are nonsectarian, they are not so in reality. There is one point on which for the most part Protestant teachers agree, notwithstanding that their creeds are otherwise at variance; and that is in misrepresenting Catholic faith and practice, and in giving a Protestant coloring to history, especially in regard to the conversion of nations to Christianity, and the so-called Reformation. If there were no other reason than this there would be sufficient cause why Catholics should have the right to establish Catholic schools, enjoying the same rights under the law as the Public schools.

We have no desire to coerce Protestants to send their children to schools which are conducted on the principles we maintain. Why then should they desire to coerce us? If Protestants are really convinced that it is best to have no religion, or a half Protestantism, taught to their own children in their own schools, we offer no objection, provided we have the privilege of establishing schools which teach what we wish to be taught. But we have a decided objection to have their principles forced down our throats whether we like it or not.

We give all credit to the 73 Protestant members of Parliament who voted against Mr. Borden's amendment, the real purpose of which was to coerce the Catholic settlers of the North-West into a system of education to which they conscientiously object. whole Liberal party, Protestant, as well as Catholic, stood out nobly for liberty of conscience, while we are sorry to say that the Conservative party of Ontario under Mr. Borden's lead, voted for the coercion of Catholics. There were, however, two noble exceptions-Mr. Pringle of Cornwall and Stormont, and Mr. Lewis of South Huron, who could not be induced even by the influence of party ties to rivet the bonds which Mr. Borden's motion aimed at fastening upon the Catholics of the new provinces.

Mr. Borden, indeed, stated that he did not aim against the establishment of Separate schools in the new provinces ; but the public are not to be deceived by this hollow pretence. The Catholics of the North-West already enjoyed the right of establishing Separate schools, and this right was guaranteed them by the law of 1875; but Mr. Borden's amendment aimed at taking this right from them, and putting them at the mercy of just such a hostile majority as that which has tyrannized over them in Manitoba.

Only recently there applied to me, for any position I could offer him, one most brilliant editorial writers in the newspaper profession—a man who two years ago easily commanded \$100.00 for a single editorial in his special field. This man became so uneliable from drink that editors are not afraid of his articles, and although he can to day write as forcible editorials as at any time during his life, he sits in a cellar in one of our cities writing newspaper wrappers for \$1 a thousand.

THE HON. CHAS. FITZPATRICK'S Hyman will be offered the position ABLE SPEECH.

The closing of the debate on the Autonomy Bill on the side of the Government was marked by one of the ablest speeches of the session delivered by the Hon. Chas. Fitzpatrick, Minister of Justice, who began by expressing regret for the attempts which had been made by several speakers during the course of the discussion to fan the flames of religious discord.

The hon, gentleman reminded the House that the record of the Catholic Church is written large on every page of the history of the world and especially of the history of Canada from the earliest days of its discovery and settlement, and it ill behooves Canadians of any creed at the present day to forget the spirit of self sacrifice and devotion to duty which early pastors of the Church showed in their efforts to Christianize the aborigines of the country. In this connection the great Christian martyrs Breboeuf, Jogues and Lallemont are pre-eminent not only on this continent, but in the history of the world. Although the West was peopled largely by the overflow of the cradles of Ontario, we should not forget these men whose work made the possession of that great country by Canada possible.

Mr. Fitzpatrick reminded the members of the House of Commons that a Catholic Archbishop Tache, had been summoned from Rome in 1869 by Sir John Macdonald to return to Canada to make peace between this country and the North-West which was then in a state of insurrection, and that he had succeeded. At that time there was no complaint of Roman interference with the North West, but a Catholic Archbishop's intervention was gladly made use of to preserve the peace of the country, and then it was deemed prudent to guarantee to the Catholics of the North - West the rights of which

they were in possession. Mr. Fitzpatrick had been accused of having drafted the clauses of the Autonomy Bill which have been so keenly debated. He admitted that they were drafted by him "clause by clause, line by line, word by word.' There was, he said, a compact with the people of the North-West, from the time when first a constitution had been given them, to respect minority rights, and it is now fair and reasonable that these rights should be respected, and we are now under a moral obligation to enact these rights into a law. It was always the intention of Parliament to make special provisions, according to the needs of the different Provinces in regard to education; and the powers of provinces in relation to education are limited.

1. The rights of denominational schools in each province at the time of union must be preserved, according to Section 93 of the British North America Act, and they are not to be interfered

2. Where in any Province a system of Separate schools exists by law at the time of union, or is hereafter established, an appeal shall lie to the Governor in Council from any enactment of Provinces affecting the rights or privileges of the minority.

Mr. Fitzpatrick showed by strict and reasoning that the proper construction of these clauses justified and necessitated the passage of the clauses of the Autonomy Bill affecting education.

He upheld Separate schools as the only schools consistent with absolute freedom of conscience. He does not regard with sympathy the desire which many have expressed for uniformity in education, because it is not conducive to the development of individuality, and he holds that what was said and done in 1875 and 1876, in 1880, 1885, and 1904 put upon this Parliament a moral obligation to give effect to the promises and pledges then made.

COUNTRY BEFORE PARTY.

While there exist in this country two great political parties, each striving to govern the people according to the Constitution, it is important that the people governed should always remember that the parties exist for the benefit of the country, and the country does not exist for the benefit of any party. Speculators in politics try to mix matters by appealing to old party animosi ties and personal ambitions and jealousies and passions. They influence the voters to place the cart before the horse by putting the interests of party before the interests of the whole community. Party Government, like many other things good in themselves, is frequently carried to extremes; and demagogues let loose among the people and in the press, use false statements, bribes and trickery to gain the temporary advantage of party to the general good of the people. Take, for instance, the present situation in this city, and we have a striking example of putting party before the interests of the whole city.

Dominion Government. There is no doubt as to his ability and fitness for the office, and every citizen of London must admit that it would be an honor and an advantage to have a representative in the Federal Cabinet; and, therefore, keeping in view the best interests of the city, there should be no opposition to his elevation to so prom. inent a position in the country. But just here Party Tyranny steps in, and says to a large number of citizens: You must oppose the Minister of Pablic Works. You must defeat a member of the Cabinet and elect in his place a man who will be in opposition to the present Govern. ment and who will have no place in the Federal Cabinet." And the folly will not stop here, as, unfortunately, the tyranny is not confined to one party. London has in the Provincial Cabinet the Hon. Mr. Beck, who without doubt is well qualified for a portfolio, and will likely be given one before long, and then he must return for the approval of his constituency. Again, it is as clear as that two and two make four that it would be an honor and a benefit to have a representative holding an important portfolio in the Ontario Government ; and yet the chances are the party lash

How intelligent citizens, business men, professional men, working men can be stampeded to submit to such political slavery is not easy to comprehend. Sensible people should consider the situation as it is here and now and act accordingly. The elections proper are over. Both parties in power have large majorities, and nothing is to be gained by forcing an election for either House except by the wire-pulling politicians who expect to make money during the campaign. It is a time when honest citizens should set aside party politics and unite in promoting the best interests of the whole city, and both the hon. gentlemen should be elected by acclamation.

If, however, party managers insist on a contest, it is to be hoped that it will be a fair political fight and that bigots and demagogues will not be allowed by responsible party men to raise the race and creed cry which in this province means the anti - Catholic campaign. Such election tactics have been sufficiently numerous in the past and no good can come by bringing them about

largely helped to make this country the magnificent and free country that it is: and while they are second to none in love and loyalty and good will, and most desirous of living in peace with their fellow-sitizens, they have no notion of tamely submitting to injustice or tyranny or persecution from either or any party in polities or out of pol-

contests. Neither party in the city can be called cowardly. Both the Hon. Mr. Hyman and the Hon. Mr. Beck have heaps of courage. They have earned their present high positions by London of both political parties should be proud of them and allow them to retain their seats in peace and give us all a rest.

THE CHURCH IN FRANCE.

Recent events in reference to French versus German influence in Morocco have seemed to reach so threatening a point that the slightest rise in temperature might cause them to break out into the flame of a war in Europe involving several nations, and partly from this cause the bill which Premier M. Rouvier introduced into the French Chamber of Deputies for the complete separation of Church and State seems to have come to a temporary stand-still. Nevertheless the true character of the Bill is being eagerly discussed throughout the country, and it has been found in some respects even worse in its details than that introduced by Premier Combes. One of the features of the Bill is that it enables a knot of Catholics who are often only Catholic in name to associate themselves together as the governing body of the Church in any parish, to take possession of the Church property and to administer it, independently of the Bishops of the Dioceses. Such a method of Church government is totally at variance with the traditions and usages of the Church, and cannot be accepted by the Church in any degree.

There are in every parish a few disturbers of Church order who are always ready and anxious to push themselves forward as if they constituted the real Church in the parish, but whose whole purpose is to create disunion and discord. The Rouvier Bill is specially framed to enable these disorderly spirits to take all Church matters into their hands, and to them the It is conceded that the Hon. Mr. church buildings will be rented at a

of Minister of Public Works in the will be used, and the citizens will be urged to defeat the member of the Cabinet and to send in his place a member who will be in opposition to the " Powers that be " in Toronto.

The Catholic people of Canada have

itics. London is noted for bitter political

should be entirely oppose sent regime. M. Rouvier's tenure not be perpetual, even a to come to M. Combes' r is still possible that and would sweep M. Rouvier of existence. Yet after appointments, we dare no immediate amelioration tions-though we feel this will come, and perha is generally expected. It is reported from all p that there is a revival o spirit of the people from to be hoped, and we do r

> say we still entertain the anti-Christian Government swept away in a catacly religious fervor; but in Church will pass triumph the severe strain to whi subjected. In the long past she has emerged many a crisis as severe more severe than the pres promise of her Divine Fo be made void that "th shall not prevail against even though "the rain floods come, and the w beat upon that house."

Hope is like the sun, journey towards it, cas of our burden behind us.