

er Laurier and Tarte having the only true French patriotism) I will consent at the next election to vote for the Government.

"I can assert that there is neither religious or national controversies in the county of Queens as far as the Liberal-Conservative party is concerned.

"And the only agitation now existing rests only on the misleading hopes of the Government partisans who want to give more emphasis to the anti-Protestant and anti-English campaign led by Mr. Tarte in Quebec; as this campaign cannot have much effect, we do not need to have recourse to such desperate expedients as those used by the Government. A drowning man clings to a straw, and a Government which is going to disappear uses means, to retain the power, which are worthy of the American Yellow Press."

Speaking at a meeting in Queens County shortly after the incident, Mr. Hetherington emphatically denied all what had been said against him. A local paper reports as follows:

"Speaking of affidavits now famous (or rather infamous) Mr. Hetherington says that they are absolutely false. He was given to understand that these sworn statements had been sent to Quebec; they were being distributed widely among the public so as to work up a propaganda in favor of Mr. Tarte. It was thought safer not to distribute these depositions throughout our province, as all those who know the parties who signed them, or the magistrate who swore them in, would not pay any attention to them.

"It was hoped that they would have more weight before strangers. Mr. Hetherington declared that those who want to arouse feelings and prejudices of race and of religion in the country, were all partisans of the Government, that Mr. Tarte specially was trying to arouse a war of race and religion in Quebec for political purposes. As to himself, Mr. Hetherington never said that a descendant of French blood should never have been Canada's Prime Minister."

This is what Mr. Hetherington declared at a political meeting, and many of the audience had heard Mr. Hetherington in previous meetings, and could fully understand that he meant what he said.

Here follows an affidavit, signed by eight electors, and which reads:—

"We, the undersigned electors in the Parish of Brunswick, Queen's county, after being sworn in declare as follows:—

"That we were present at the meeting: called for the purpose of organizing the election, and have heard speeches delivered by Horton B. Hetherington and L. P. D. Tilley on the evening of November 11th, 1899.

"To the best of our knowledge and of our conscience, Horton B. Hetherington has never attacked the Roman Catholic church of religion.

"Horton B. Hetherington has in no way whatever attacked the French Canadian race.

"Horton B. Hetherington did not say that the Liberal Conservative party proposed to make the next elections on questions of Protestant or Catholic religion.

"We are members of the club bearing the name of G. E. Foster, and at this club no religious questions are discussed. There is no anti-Catholic agitation.

"Handford A. Ryder.

"W. A. Fowlie.

"Anson B. Clark.

"Isaac B. Cromwell.

"David K. Beach.

"Arthur C. Beach.

"S. S. Chapman.

"Horatis A. Fowler.

Sworn before me, January 6th, 1900.

"(Signed) Joseph S. Beach

THE HON. MR. FOSTER AND THE FRENCH CANADIANS.

Mr. Speaker, in this country ours, composite as it is and necessarily must be, the great lesson that cannot learn too soon is that, despite all the lines of difference we must necessarily mark people of different races and creeds and religions, arising from inherent constitutional reasons, from associations and environments acting for hundreds of years, from modes and habits of thought we have grown up essentially different on the principles on which they are founded amongst different civilizations and different nationalities.