

education of all the children of the Province. The new system will exclude a large proportion of the children from the Provincial schools and except in the matter of taxation, which being general is unjust and oppressive, it will prove to be the mutilated, imperfect system of a faction. Some of the papers assert that a remedial measure would be a violation of, an infringement of, a trampling upon the constitutional rights of Manitoba, and they hysterically cry, "hands off," and make dire threats of dreadful consequences sure to follow if such a measure be passed. They do not seem to know that the Canadian Parliament can not do anything unconstitutional. That were it to pass an Act which exceeded its powers such Act would be null and void; or that if it legislate within its powers in this case Manitoba could do nothing to prevent the operation and effect of such legislation, and therefore that all the wild and violent language in which they indulge is, at best, mere vapour, except in so far as it may excite and inflame those to whom such language is really addressed. Others there are, who fearing that injury may be done to the country or to some one of the political parties, advise the Catholics of Manitoba and all who sympathise with them to accept this decision as a final settlement of the Manitoba school question, to submit tamely to what those papers say is inevitable, and not to seek from Parliament redress which neither could nor would be given, but to look to Mr. Greenway

and his colleagues for lenient treatment and such partial relief as they perhaps would grant if the minority by their humble submission to the will of the majority proved themselves deserving of such consideration. The Catholics of Manitoba do not seem disposed to accept such advice. They feel that they have been most grievously wronged, and they will not submit in silence to this gross injustice while they have hope of obtaining redress. There is no reason to apprehend that they will resort to violence in word or deeds, or that if they must agitate in order to obtain justice they will depart from the peaceable, legal and constitutional method they have hitherto followed. But there is reason to believe that they will agitate, that they will appeal to the sympathies and to the sense of justice of all lovers of right and religious liberty in all the Provinces. While injustice is done to them they will complain of it aloud, and will seek redress wherever redress may be obtained. And although they may but passively resist payment of the obnoxious school taxes, they will, wherever it is at all possible, continue to support their denominational schools and so save their children from influences which they regard as calculated to blight the faith and destroy the souls of those whose welfare is their chief concern. It will be well for other denominations, it will be of incalculable service to the interests of all the people of Canada, moral and national, if they succeed in their struggle for justice.

