

being swamped, unless they could manage to introduce a strong French element into the population, and this they believed with some reason could much more easily be done in Manitoba than anywhere else. Similarly in Quebec itself the Catholic clergy had become alarmed at the rapidly increasing exodus of their people to the United States, and were anxious to direct the current of emigration from that quarter to Manitoba. This, in itself, was natural and even praiseworthy, and a thing they were amply justified in promoting by all legitimate means, and it was no more to be wondered at that they should have wished to carve out a second Quebec in that region than that the people of the adjoining province should desire to erect two or three more Ontarios in the same quarter. But it was to the last degree unfortunate that, under such circumstances, Mr. Macdougall should have been refused admission to the territory, and still more that blood should have been spilled, not in actual fight, which might have been passed over, but deliberately in cold blood and in utter defiance of all constituted law and order. Incidentally it was the sure way to defeat their own objects. Whatever the French-Canadian population might have been induced to do if there had been no disturbance (and it is quite possible that if quiet had been maintained there might have been a very considerable immigration from Quebec), it is certain that they were not disposed to take any unnecessary risks or to incur the toil and fatigue of a long journey with their families, with the chance of a fight at the end of it.

REPORTER. And where did the Orange Order come in?

SIR RICHARD. In this way. They had been for a long time a formidable factor in Ontario politics, though up to that time they had been a good deal divided among themselves and could hardly be said to belong to either political party. But they had always cherished an instinctive suspicion of the designs of the Catholic element in Quebec, and they were disposed to look with much disfavour on anything which promised to produce a similar condition in the new provinces. Mr. Disraeli once remarked that