

Northwest Review.

"AD MAJOREM DEI GLORIAM."

THE ONLY CATHOLIC PAPER PUBLISHED IN ENGLISH IN NORTH-WESTERN CANADA.

VOL. XI, No. 49.

WINNIPEG, MANITOBA, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 1896.

\$ 2.00 per Year.
Single Copies 5 cents.

A LETTER FROM HIS GRACE

The Archbishop of Halifax to The Casket on the Remedial Bill.

Editor of The Casket.

SIR,—On my arrival here from the East, a few days ago, I learned from the reports of Parliament, as well as from newspapers the fate of the Remedial Bill. I need scarcely say it was a surprise to me, as well as a subject of regret. So strong was my faith in the good sense of my countrymen, and in their spirit of loyalty to our peerless Constitution, to say nothing of their love of fair play, that I felt it would be an insult to doubt the practical unanimity of the House in upholding that constitution, and in deciding once forever that in Canada there is as little room for religious fire-brands as there is for political tricksters. The noble action of the Commons, on two previous occasions, had amply warranted this belief. Who could have imagined that public men, in Canada, both within and without Parliament, should have turned a purely constitutional question into a partisan one, or should have sought to perpetuate an admitted injustice at the risk of an era of senseless sectarian strife, and of national retrogression. The worst enemy of our country is the sower of religious discord and of racial enmity. There is no place in our public life for such an one. He should be bound in a sheaf with the prophets of pessimism, and the would-be betrayers of our country, and trampled underfoot on the threshing floor of public opinion.

A plain question is before the people of Canada. Shall we, or shall we not, stand by our constitution which ensures the rights of all, but only inasmuch as they are guaranteed to each? Or shall we, by striking at the rights of a few, be the motive what it may, weaken the safeguards of our own, engender a spirit of mutual distrust, and fan into a flame the fast expiring embers of former unworthy dissensions. Only a desperate professional politician could be guilty of such a crime against the social well-being of our fair country. An honest man, it is true, who dislikes the idea of separate schools might, for a moment, be tempted to pursue such a course of action, looking at the question from one point of view only; but on reflection he would recognize that it is not whether or not there shall be separate schools, but whether the Constitution shall be observed to-day in regard to the rights of Smith, so that it may be invoked tomorrow to support those of Brown. Our rights must stand or fall together. Few, I trust, have any desire to infringe on those of their fellow-countrymen. Our enlightened sense of true liberty, as well as the conditions of our national life, would render impossible the gratification of such desire.

Having lately passed through various countries, and having attentively observed their social condition, the superiority of our own Canada as a home of peace and plenty, has been more fully than ever impressed on my mind. And yet we are only at the starting point of our course. Mutual trust, mutual respect for the convictions of others, a little bearing and forbearing, with a loyal devotion to the Constitution, even when it may run counter to some fad of our own, will ensure to Canada the future, in great part at least, of the world. It is simply wonderful what she has accomplished during the past twenty-five years. History affords no parallel to it. Grecian, or Roman legends of mythical greatness do not equal the sober facts of our short career. The vigorous spirit that breathes life, and hope, and national aspirations into the blood and brain of young Canadians has exorcised, or at least silenced, the voice of the annexationist, and has created a bond of union between all races and religions in the pursuit of national progress.

An insidious attempt is now made to break that unity, and, although this may not be intended, the consequence will be to bring back that wilderness of discord and national disruption, in which the cry of union with, or rather subjection to, the neighboring republic will be heard again; and who can say with what effect?

In a crisis like the present no lover of

his country can keep silence. Would that my voice could reach the ears and the intelligence of all my countrymen. To non-Catholics I would say: Are you, the descendants of men who won, after a long and hard fight, constitutional liberty, going to inflict a blow, which must have far-reaching consequences, on the work of your fathers? If you do not uphold the Constitution now, your action will one day be invoked as a precedent for breaking it on some other point,—it may be against yourselves. In your hands rests the future peace and advancement of the Dominion. You are a majority; you can oppress a poor minority in a certain province; you can say, we reek not the decisions of courts, nor the claims of good faith and fair play; you can evoke an evil spirit, and implant a rankling feeling of injustice in the hearts of very many of your countrymen; you can stay the wheels of progress, and blight the fair prospects of our loved country. You can do all this by voting against the Remedial Legislation. That any considerable percentage of you will do this, I, who have been nurtured

in your midst, refuse to believe.

I know it will be said: "We do not refuse to right any wrong that can be shown to exist; but we wish first to investigate, to ascertain if any hardship has been inflicted on a minority." To an outsider this appears reasonable: to a Canadian it is scarcely what I wish to characterize, lest I should be accused of using violent language. No man at all conversant with public affairs can be unaware of the injustice practised against the minority in Manitoba. It is a subject for sorrow and humiliation that any one should ignore this injustice; it is a hollow pretence to talk of investigating it; it is treason against conscience to plead this wretched excuse to justify opposition to its abolition. We may add, it is an insult to non-Catholics to suppose that any appreciable number of them will allow a difference of religious belief to blind them to the dictates of ordinary justice; or that they can be made the puppets of a movement which must end, if successful now, either in surrender to the claims of the minority, which is probably contemplated by the leaders, or in

disaster to the country.

I trust, sir, you were mistaken in supposing any Catholic in Halifax "lent countenance to an appeal of anti-Catholic prejudice." Some of them, indeed, may dislike the present government, and might on a question of trade or other policy, bitterly oppose it; but in common with their non-Catholic fellow-citizens, who are not blinded by fanaticism, they will surely be on the side of justice, even should they doubt the motive of the Government in acting justly. We are to look at acts, not motives. The former fall under our cognizance; the latter are seen and judged by God alone. True Catholics in Halifax, as elsewhere, will not learn their duty, nor the ethics of political action, from party politicians, Catholic or non-Catholic, but from purer and less interested sources, viz., from the principles of justice which are binding on all good men, at all times. No party triumph, no worldly consideration, no ties of association can excuse an act of injustice.

C. O'BRYEN.

Rome, May 6th, 1896.

Coercion Exemplified.



JOS. MARTIN—"I said then, and I still think that the clause of the 1890 Act is MOST UNJUST to Roman Catholics. It is to my mind RANK Tyranny."

The above illustration speaks for itself and calls for but little comment. It represents the valiant Joseph Martin, Mr. Laurier's trusted lieutenant in Manitoba, engaged in the congenial task of trying to drive the Catholic children of this province into the so-called public but really Protestant schools which he established here in 1890. We use the words "congenial task" advisedly, for this gallant friend of Mr. Laurier, whose followers delight to honor by the title of "Fighting Joe," is never more in his element than



SIR CHARLES TUPPER, BART.

when attacking the weak and those whom he considers will fall an easy prey to his bulldozing methods. We do not hesitate to say, however, that although Mr. Martin continues to put a bold face on the matter no one knows better than he that total and irremediable defeat is staring him in the face and that the righteousness of their cause has raised up to the defence of the Catholic minority a powerful and growing force before which the motley crowd which he is still able to command will be as chaff before the wind. And nothing has contributed to lead up to this state of affairs more than the noble way in which the Catholics of all degrees in the social scale and all nationalities have faced their difficulties and borne the burden under which they have labored since 1890. When the school act was passed in that year despite our protests and appeals it was freely declared by Mr. Martin and his friends that the opposition to the measure simply came from Quebec and the clergy, that the Catholic laity would gladly accept it, and that it would not be two years before all the Catholic children would be found in the public schools. Every one knows how far this prediction has been falsified in every particular and to-day we are able to point with pride to the fact that there are not half a dozen Catholic children (if there are any at all, for we may say we do not know of a single one) attend-

ing the pampered Protestant schools to which we are forced to contribute our taxes, whereas the Catholic schools which have been maintained out of our slender means by spontaneous contributions have never during their whole history had such a large number of scholars on their rolls as at the present day. Mr. Martin fondly imagined that this school law of his, by means of which he introduced into this province a monstrous feature of the old penal laws, would make it impossible for Catholic



HON. HUGH JOHN MACDONALD,
(Minister of Interior).

parents in Manitoba to provide for their little ones that Christian education which their consciences demand, be hoped they would not be able to afford to pay the double tax and that their children would be forced into the Protestant

schools to the danger of their faith. He still, to judge by his words and actions, retains that hope, or rather we may say, he professes to do so for we can hardly imagine that even he can any longer be blind to the fact that his puny legislation is as nothing when confronted with the sterling devotion to duty which animates the Catholic body in this province, and their readiness to sacrifice anything in order to give their dear ones a true Christian, Catholic, as well as thoroughly good secular education. But there is one lesson our readers may learn from our illustration and that is that this man is the bosom friend of the Hon. Mr. Laurier, and every elector who votes at the coming election for a Laurier candidate will assist in trying to bring into power a party of which, sad to relate, men like Dalton McCarthy and Joseph Martin are, among the leading lights; men who are willing to set the constitution of our beloved land at defiance if they can thereby perpetuate this gross injury which has been done the Catholics of Manitoba. We ask our eastern readers when going to the polls to remember that McCarthy and Martin are the selected Laurier candidates for two constituencies in this province and not to be misled by the fair promises by which the Liberal leader is trying to secure the support of the Catholic electorate in Quebec and some parts of Ontario and the Maritime Provinces. Surely it will be the duty of all who sympathize with the Catholic minority here to do all they can to assist those who in the late house showed themselves ready to do us justice, and have no dealings with those who proved themselves ready to play into the hands of Mr. Martin and his friends here in their attempt to close our Catholic schools and compel us in our poverty to send our little ones to schools which no Catholic can conscientiously approve of.

The Campaign in the West.

THE REVIEW reporter has again paid a short visit to the west and spent some days in the constituency of Macdonald. He was present at a largely attended meeting held on Friday evening at Carberry in the interests of Mr. Rutherford, the Liberal nominee. Representatives of Mr. Boyd, the Government candidate, had been invited to attend and Mr. J. S. Ewart and Ald. Andrews, of Winnipeg, put in an appearance. The promoters of the meeting, however, raised a technical objection with regard to Mr. Ewart and refused to allow him to speak. This shabby action undoubtedly lost them some votes as many in the audience had gone to the meeting solely to hear the distinguished Winnipeg lawyer and came to the conclusion that the Liberals do not wish to have the true facts put before the electorate. Mr. Andrews made an able speech which was well received, and Dr. Harrison unexpectedly arriving in town took Mr. Ewart's place and gave a stirring address. Mr. Isaac Campbell, of Winnipeg, spoke for Mr. Rutherford, and it is probable that at the close the meeting was about equally divided. On Saturday evening Mr. Andrews held a meeting at Bowles school house about eleven miles northwest of Carberry. THE REVIEW reporter went out with a few others and there was a good meeting. It was a hostile district but Mr. Andrews made a good impression and was loudly applauded. During the meeting a gale of wind accompanied by heavy rain sprang up and the night being pitch dark it was no easy matter to keep the trail and get back to Carberry. As a matter of fact our reporter had an experience of prairie travelling which he does not wish to repeat in a hurry. He and his companions lost their way and eventually wandered into the sand hills near Sewell. After roaming about for an hour it became evident that they were hopelessly at sea and they had no alternative but to make themselves as comfortable as possible in and under the buggy and wait for daylight. The wind was piercing cold, the rain fell in torrents and the condition of the unfortunate travellers when at six o'clock in the morning they reached Carberry can better be imagined than described. However they were cheered by the reflection that the meeting they had attended had been a successful one and only another proof that Mr. Boyd will be elected by an abundant majority.