

Catholic vote. The St. François Xavier pledges had done much towards the removal of the Catholic dread of Liberal antipathy. Mr. Greenway saw the importance of supplanting it altogether with a feeling of trust and confidence. For this purpose, accompanied by Mr. Alloway (a prominent Protestant supporter), he called upon His Grace, the Archbishop of St. Boniface, to repeat and emphasize the former assurances. His Grace was unwell. At his request Mr. Greenway made his communication through Vicar-General Allard, and intimated that he would be glad if His Grace would name some one who would be acceptable to his people as a member of the administration. The Vicar-General listened to the assurances and request, and agreed to meet Mr. Greenway at Mr. Alloway's office the next morning at nine o'clock. The meeting took place, and the Vicar-General then informed Mr. Greenway that His Grace was extremely gratified with the protestations of good will made by Mr. Greenway; that he believed that Mr. Prendergast enjoyed the confidence of his people; and that inasmuch as politics, apart from defence of his flock, were outside his sphere, no opposition would be made to the government so far as he was concerned. Mr. Greenway was delighted. Mr. Prendergast joined the administration. The general elections came on. The Liberals were the Catholics' best friends. The Greenway government was sustained by a sweeping majority, and nowhere was the success greater than in the Catholic constituencies, from which but one opposition member was returned.

We have now arrived at the month of July, 1888. Mr. Martin's school act is to arrive in March, 1890, but we seem to be further away from it than ever; The draughtsmen have taken care with their "or practice" to make such an act impossible; the Conservatives in Manitoba have always been friendly towards the Catholics; and now the Liberals, as to whose disposition there had been some suspicion, have declared themselves also to be their friends. The new friends too have an overwhelming majority; Mr. Prendergast is one of the administration, and there will be no elections for the next four years. What can happen?

To explain the sudden reversal in Manitoba the attention of the reader must for a few moments be directed to the Province of Quebec. We have seen that the Manitoba elections were held in the month of July, 1888, and that Liberals then were vying with Conservatives in expressions of good-will towards Catholics. In Quebec, in the same month (oddly enough) was passed a statute afterwards known as the Jesuits' Estate Act. The Jesuits had for many years preferred a claim to certain lands which had at one time belonged to their order. In settlement of this claim the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Quebec agreed to pay to them