PATRIOTIC PLATFORM.

Hon. Wilfrid Laurier's Great Speech on the School Question.

Straight Motion Against the Deceitful and Oppressive Measure Introduced by the Dominion Government.

Conciliation and Justice Against Arrogance and Coercion.

The Parliament of Canada Should Not Proceed Any Further—Govern ment Policy a Danger to Confederation and no Benefit to the Minority-Perilous Proceedings of the Government-Wrong From First to Last-The Law on the Case-Answer of the Manitoba Government and Their Request for Investigation-What They Are Willing to Do-How the Government of Canada Should Have to maintain their legislative independ-Acted-The Doctrine of the English Liberal School on the Clergy in Politics-Mr. Laurier's Stand-The Grandest Speech Ever Delivered in Canada.

Laurier on the School bill in the House of Commons March 3, 1896:---

me to make a personal reference to amongst men the standard of justice myself-a reference which, however, is not uniform, but is affected by difmay perhaps be justified, not so much ferences of religion, differences of edon account of the feeling which may not unnaturally be attributed to me, being of the race and of the creed of which I am, but still more in consideration of the great responsibility which has been placed upon me by the too Find regard of the friends by whom I am surrounded here-I would say that in the course of my Parliamentary career, during which it has been my duty on more than one occasion to take part in the discussion of those dangerous questions which too often have come before the Parliament of Canada, never did I rise with a greater sense of security, never did I feel so strong in the consciousness of right as I do now, at this anxious moment, when length-and I do not blame him for in the name of the constitution so that-to the history of this Confederaoutrageously misinterpreted by the tion. I followed him closely. There Government, in the name of peace is a page, however, of which he might and harmony in this land, when have spoken, but of which he has not in the name of this minority which said a single word. He might have this bill pretends to help, in the referred to the page of the history of so many hopes are centred, I rise to manner in which his native Province shared in and believed in by all his was never perhaps a corner of the of the hon, gentleman that in bring- Nova Scotia synonymous with oppres- ther. It gives to the Dominion Govern- grievance long ago. ing forward this bill he is impelled say that to-day the people of Nova over Provincial Legislatures. The hon. by the desire of doing justice to the Scotia, especially the young genera- gentleman said this was a boon. I say

The following is a completee report do justice, and of all things to do jusof the speech delivered by Hon. Wilfrid | tice to a minority, is always a great and noble thing. It is one of the noblest attributes of human nature. But the hon, gentleman who has spok-Mr. Speaker, if, in a debate of such en for the Government knows from his moment, it were not out of place for long Parliamentary experience that ucation and a multitude of other circumstances. The hon, gentleman is aware-more than anybody else, pera country like this, whenever upon any question involving a different conception of what is right or wrong, a uniform standard and a uniform con-

ception of what is right. COERCION OF NOVA SCOTIA. man of sensitiveness can well avoid did not meet with ready acceptance, when, impelled by a paramount sense and for obvious, very obvious, reasons. which he knows may not be freely since the days of Athens of old there this bill were to become the a galaxy of men of the very law, while it would afford no protec- first class as the small Province of tion whatever to the suffering minor- Nova Scotia. The names of Huntingity in Manitoba, it would be a most top, Uniacke, Young and Howe-above violent wrench of the principles upon all. Howe-are names of men who were hon, gentleman who has just moved their generation-the names of men

ing which trampled under foot the Legislatures in regard to education. dignity and self-respect of a proud peo-

PAST AGITATIONS.

ever since Confederation we told us that ever since Confederation we have been a happy people. Well, If this were not so important a debate I would say that if the people have been happy the Cabinet Ministers unpy. But the subject is too important the hon, gentleman when he says that the people have always been happy. Is that the way the hon, gentleman has read the history of Canada since Confederation? The people of Canada have been happy! Why, what has been the course of events ever since we have had Confederation? Is it not a fact that almost thence into Ontario, and for years, as everyone knows, it embittered and impassioned public opinion of the Dominion to the exclusion almost of every other topic. Then, immediately after that, the attempt by this Government, of which the hon, gentleman was a member, to take away from the statute book of Ontario the act known as the streams bill roused the people of Ontario to a determination after, the repeated disallowance by the Government of which the hon, gentletransportation which had been The day came when bloodshed though it had the methods of persuas- plied and probably never can be ap- made a moment ago by the ion in its hands, has chosen to take plied without friction, disturbance and

dress a wrong? tion of the people from all parts of the country is upon this chamber, ence is found in the constitution; and, name of this young nation on which Confederation which tells us of the and whatever may be our opinion being there, it must be applied. may hold as to the policy of the Gov- a way as not to provoke irritation; ask this Parliament not to proceed any of Nova Scotia was brought into the ernment, there is one thing which it must be applied in such a way further with this bill. (Loud cheers.) union. The hon, gentleman has not cannot be denied: These frequent rethat even those who suffer by it shall currences of agitation and commotion continue to love the constitution, shall bower and to-day is the knowledge we had four eral party in Manitoba when coming in the currences of agitation and commotion continue to love the constitution, shall begislature. Then they came again to-day is the knowledge we had four eral party in Manitoba when coming in the continue to love the constitution, shall begislature. The position which I have taken from the first on this question, and which I have taken from the first on this question, and which I have taken from the first on this question, and which I have taken from the first on this question, and which I have taken from the first on this question, and which I have taken from the first on this question, and which I have taken from the first on this question, and which I have taken from the first on this question, and which I have taken from the first on this question, and which I have taken from the first on this question, and which I have taken from the first on this question, and which I have taken from the first on this question, and which I have taken from the first on this question, and which I have taken from the first on this question, and which I have taken from the first on this question, and which I have taken from the first on this question, and which I have taken from the first on the first on this question, and which I have taken from the first on the first on this question, and which I have taken from the first on the first on this question, and which I have taken from the first on the first the first on this question, and which I more than ever moment, and in which I more than ever firmly rely, is of such strength that was brought to the attention firmly rely, is of such strength that was brought to the attention firmly rely, is of such strength that was brought to the attention firmly rely, is of such strength that was brought to the attention firmly rely, is of such strength that was brought to the attention firmly rely, is of such strength that was brought to the attention firmly rely, is of such strength that was brought to the attention firmly rely, is of such strength that was brought to the attention have brought about this commotion. It easily takes away the pain which no of the people of Nova Scotia it you find that on every occasion there I shall be told by the hon, gentleman nominally a system of Common Schools, was only one cause, always the same, and that was the feature of our constitution which abridges the indepense mechanically and that no judgment is as another reason that the act was a of public duty, he has to take a course I am within the mark when I say that dence, the sovereignty, of the Provinto be exercised by this Parliament violation of the compact which had cial Legislatures. In one form or other in such matters. That cannot be the been entered into by the population such was the cause of these agita- rule. It cannot be that this remedy is of the Northwest Territories and the tions. In view of these salient facts to apply mechanically. This remedy Government of Canada, which comfriends. But the argument seems earth of so few acres, so few people, it may not be out of place at present must be granted or denied, accord- pact had been repeated several times overwhelming that if which in a given time produced such to look further into the history of our ing as the circumstances of each case afterwards by the Legislature of Maniown country, and by the dangers require. And that is the very lan- toba itself. Now, sir, the Government, in through which we have passed learn guage of the statute that the hon. my estimation, should have done just if possible to avoid the danger with gentleman cited a few moments ago. one thing above all others when they rewhich we are threatened. I call at- The remedy is to be sought and ap- ceived these petitions they should have tention to this fact, that when the plied as the dircumstances of the case investigated them; they should have idea of a union of our Provinces require. And it can be intelligently ap- ascertained the facts which were alwas first mooted, the question was plied only after full and ample in- leged by the minority of Manitoba in which our constitution is based. The the peers of the most famous men of debated whether the bond of union quiry into the facts of the order to apply such remedy as the should be legislative or federa case and after all means of facts warranted. This was the first tive. The very force of events made conciliation have been exhausted, thing they should have done. But they the second reading of this bill, who who, if they had moved and acted on this a federative union. The fact that and only as a last resort. did not do it. They went again comes back to this House again, after a wider and better known theatre, the Provinces are scattered and dian interval of several years, to take would to-day live not only in the vided by long distances and by divisions of creed and race made it impera- matter. And, assuming these princi- power under the constitution to pass his place at the head of his party, and hearts of their own countrymen, as who, we are told, is to force this bill they do now and will forever live, by the honored names latture to be invested with thet class. on his unwilling party, has taken some would also be honored names lature to be invested with that class throughout the civilized world, of subjects which affects all the Provcredit to himself and to the Govern- (Cheers.) That is not all. In its isola- inces, and Local Legislatures to be inment of which he is a member of be- tion, its semi-independence, the Pro- vested with those subjects which alone much, in fact did not say anything a: ment had the power to interfere, to ing the champions of the minority. In vince of Nova Scotia had attained a affect the different communities. This all, with regard to the history of this pass the remedial order which was so far as this contention is concerned merchants of Ven. Intelligence of prosperity. Its division of legislative power is absomerchants, like the merchants of Ven. lutely essential to the federal form it before this Parliament for discussion power to enforce it by legislation. What I have not the slightest, desire to take ice, were princes. It is not, either, of government. It seems also essential on this occasion. Those circumstances was then the duty of the Government. one single particle from the encomiums to be wondered at that when that all the Legislatures, whether the are so well known, however, that I do ment? Again I say it was their duty to which the Government may be eneration the people of Nova Scotia had should be absolutely free of each referred to them. But there are minority. But they failed to do that; titled; but the hon, gentleman has some misgivings as to their course, other and free from supervision, some salient facts which it is well to they passed a drastic order in Council, largely taken away from the praise What would have been the part of The hon, gentleman has alluded bring again before the attention of which they sent to Manitoba, and now which we would gladly have given to statesmanship upon that occasion? The to the differences which exist between the House. In 1870 the Legislature of they ask us, in the name of the minpart of statesmanship would have our constitution in this respect and the Manitoba, shortly after the Province ority, to pass this bill, though no inbeen to try and persuade the people of American constitution. Though I am was brought into the union, in the full vestigation has ever taken place. They has made over and over again in his the grandeur of the idea-because prepared to say that in many respects exercise of the power which had been say, in the name of the minority, speech, reiterated not once but they were a people eminently fitted to the Canadian constitution is far super- conferred upon it by this Parliament, they are bound to pass it. see the grandeur of such an idea—of for to the American, it may be that in confirmed by the Imperial Parliament, take issue with them, and in the name that the restaurance of the confirmed by the Imperial Parliament, take issue with them, and in the name that the restaurance of the confirmed by the Imperial Parliament, take issue with them, and in the name that the restaurance of the confirmed by the Imperial Parliament, take issue with them, and in the name that the restaurance of the confirmed by the Imperial Parliament, take issue with them, and in the name that the restaurance of the confirmed by the Imperial Parliament, take issue with them. perhaps ten times—which was, in Canadian Confederation. But such was this respect it is not on a par with the established a system of Separate of the minority of Manitoba I say that pass the remedial orders which are fact, the burden of his whole speech not the course taken. There was at American system Schools: In 1890 the Legislature, again their course to-day is unconstitutional, the head of the Government of Nova all Legislatures, whether the central in the full exercise of its powers, abol- is weak and dangerous. The hon. Scotia at that time a gentleman who Legislature or the State Legislatures, ished those schools. Now, the minor- gentleman told us a moment ago that to-day has been brought back from are free from the control of each other. ity, under such circumstances, the Government is bound to act metures of necessity, the tools, the instru- England to this country to force this There is in a sense the control of the could certainly not rest quiet. Chanically in this matter. Now, I ask they of the opinion that the facts were country to force this There is in a sense the control of the could certainly not rest quiet. measure upon the people of Canada. Supreme Court, but this control is sim- having a remedy against the Parliament this question: Are we, Instead of applying himself to persu- ply judicial. It is not allowed to re- legislation that had been passed. They upon the complaint of the minority, ading his own fellow-countrymen of view the discretion which is vested in came before this Government, they unsupported by evidence, without did they not say so in the reference but compels them to bring forward the the grandeur of this act of Confeder- any Legislature. The only control it came before this Parliament, with pe- having made any investigation, are we that only in that the facts required no measure which they have now brought to the attention of the House. In so by the brute force of a measure which they have now brought to the attention of the House. In so by the brute force of a measure which they have now brought attention of the House. In so by the brute force of a measure which they have now brought attention of the House. In so by the brute force of a measure which they have now brought attention of the House. In so by the brute force of a measure which they have now brought attention of the House. In so by the brute force of a measure which they have now brought attention of the House. In so by the brute force of a measure which they have now brought attention of the House. In so by the brute force of a measure which they have now brought attention of the House. In so by the brute force of a measure which they have now brought attention of the House. In so by the brute force of a measure which they have now brought attention of the House. In so by the brute force of a measure which they have now brought attention of the House. In so by the brute force of a measure which they have now brought attention of the House. In so by the brute force of a measure which they have now brought attention of the House. In so by the brute force of a measure which they have now brought attention of the House. In so be set aside? chanical majority in a mori- The weak point in the American consti- that the Government acted in a spirit THE GOVERNMENT AS JUDGES. on a false statement of facts? do not intend at this moment to con- bund Parliament, and the hon. tution is just what has been stated by of fairness and justice to the minority. rovert it in any way, though I shall gentleman must to-day bear the re- the hon, gentleman. The reserved pow- If this Government had given the minsponsibility and the stigma that for a ers are in the States, while with us the ority the same measure of justice it it was a mere mockery to give well known, then I ask why do they whole ground the great idea of reserved power is in this Barliament. address myself to it further on. But sponsibility and the sugma that for a ers are in the states, while with us the ority the same measure of justice it to the Province of Manitoba the tell us to-day that no investigation is has given to other parties, the minor- to the province of Manitoba the required? A judgment has been rension and coercion; but I am glad to ment the control of and supervision

stitute laws for those of the Provincial

not be out of place to ask, what was the Two of these acts were disallowed tablish Separate Schools; this is not dereason for these extraordinary powers and two were allowed to go into oparound him that coercive methods being imported into our constitution? In eration. Which were the acts which this to not deplot to method the present that any poorle to method a never yet led any people to good and so far as the power of disallowance is were disallowed? Were they the acts ly to the power of disallowance which is possessed by the Imperial authorities of the Separate Schools? No, these were allowed to go into operation, and the over colonial Legislatures. The Imperial authorities allowed to go into operation, and the over colonial Legislatures. over colonial Legislatures. The Im- acts disallowed were the act to estabperial Parliament has the power of dis- lish the cattle quarantine allowance, of supervision, over the acts Manitoba, and the act to make of these colonial legislative bodies. certain provisions with regard to public companies in Manitoba. to public companies in Manitoba. tions between the Dominion and the Provinces are not the same. Between these there is no superiority and no inferiority; all are equal, with this exception, that the Dominion Parliament is invested with larger powers; that is powers of a more extended and that is, powers of a more extended and of the scheduling of our cattle in Enga more important character than the land. The other act was with regard Local Legislatu . Indeed it must to public companies, one of the probe accepted as a truism, that un- visions of which enacted that if any der popular government the ma-jority must ruled I do not mean to sion of public companies and rested say that the majority will always be right. No, the majority may err, the majority may prevaricate. But I am The act was disallowed for this reason C not once, not twice, but repeatedly by agitations which more than once have shaken it to the very roots and threatened its very existence. Why, the link was scarcely dry upon the documents which established Confeduration when the New Brunswick school question arose. From New Brunswick it spread into Quebec, and specific and sp these circumstances? The remedy of the date of the passing of that act, the minority under a free government is to agitate and endeavor to bring over the majority to their way of thinkover the majority to their way of thinking. This is the rule under free government. But under our constitution the minority has also another power. It may not only agitate within the sphere of the Province to convince the majority, but it may appeal to the Executive of Canada, the Parliament of ber right, and I do remember right, one Canada, to the people of Canada, and of the complaints of the minority in thus force the issue which was con- all their petitions fined to their own Province into the they were subjected to Federal arena. Now if in any Pro- cation by the act of 1890. vince there is a contest of such bit- power of disallowance has always been terness that the minority will not rest held by the Government opposite to satisfied with the arbitrament of the be essential to the administration of islation of Manitoba—that legislation by majority, it must be that that fact this Confederation. If they ever had a the incubus of the monopoly sue is one which deeply; very deep- the doctrine which they have always over man would be held to be the doctrine which they have always over man would be held to be the doctrine which they have always over man would be held to be the doctrine which they have always over man would be held to be the doctrine which they have always over man would be held to be the doctrine which they have always over man would be held to be the doctrine which they have always over man would be held to be the doctrine which they have always over man would be believed to be the doctrine which they have always over man would be believed to be the doctrine which they have always over man would be believed to be the doctrine which they have always over man would be believed to be the doctrine which they have always over man would be believed to be the doctrine which they have always over man would be believed to be the doctrine which they have always over man would be believed to be the doctrine which they have always over man would be believed to be always of the doctrine which they have always over man would be believed to be the doctrine which they have always over man would be always of the doctrine which they have always over man would be always of the doctrine which they have always over the doctrine which they have always over the doctrine which they have always of the doctrine which they have always over the doctrine which they have always over the doctrine which they have always over the doctrine which they have always of the doctrine whic ly, affects the people in that Province. preached, they had it, not when they the C. P. R .- brought It is, therefore, manifest, it is ob-Manitoba to the very verge of rebel- vious, that if under these circumstances the minority take an appeal to was within measurable distance, and the Executive of Canada, to the it was only when the Government de- Parliament of Canada, the bitterness cided to come down and yield that of the strife will be imported into the strife was averted. Then arose the Dominion at large and there rage not agitation consequent on the demand only with equal-violence but perhaps Manitoba schools act? for the disallowance of the Jesuits' with increased fury. That has been Estate law, which rekindled the re- our experience within the last 25, yes passions and prejudices of almost 30, years. Recall the fierceness former years and excited them to a of the agitation over the New Brunsvery dangerous pitch. Now, again, wick school act; think of the feeling am sorry to say, we can hear aroused by the Jesuit estates questhe roar coming upon us of an- tion. In these cases the whole coun- Did the hon, gentleman or anybody other wave of agitation and civil com- try was convulsed. In one disallow- else on that side ever take the view of motion in this country. The demon ance was demanded in the name of the Liberal party on the question of of discord is in the land, blowing the Roman Catholicism, while in the disallowance? I am judging these hon. wind of strife over all and in all di- other disallowance was demanded in gentlemen out of their own mouths and rections, awakening slumbering pas- the name of Protestantism, and the old by community with a free government, in sions, arousing old prejudices. You feuds which divided our ancestors in I say to the hon. gentlecan follow the trace of its passage in other lands threatened to invade our man who has put me the question; if tion I have taken myself. I know people of Manitoba, Mr. Ewart's seccan lonow the trace of its passage in other lands threatened to intact of he thinks it was right and proper to there are some hon, gentelmen ond argument was a consequence of the country villages; country and here work the mischief he thinks it was right and proper to there are some hon. our cities, towns and country vinages, country and here work the misches are cattle quarantine act on the other side of the House the first. He said: "The Legislature where the rude toil and anxious days In view of these facts, what is the would it not have been ten times betof the ploneer do not save him from lesson to be deducted from the teaching ter and more advantageous to the lesson to be deducted from the teaching ter and more advantageous to the lesson to be deducted from the teaching ter and more advantageous to the lesson to be deducted from the teaching ter and more advantageous to the lesson to be deducted from the teaching ter and more advantageous to the lesson to be deducted from the teaching ter and more advantageous to the lesson to be deducted from the teaching ter and more advantageous to the lesson to be deducted from the teaching ter and more advantageous to the lesson to be deducted from the teaching ter and more advantageous to the lesson to be deducted from the teaching ter and more advantageous to the lesson to be deducted from the teaching ter and more advantageous to the lesson to be deducted from the teaching ter and more advantageous to the lesson to be deducted from the teaching ter and more advantageous to the lesson to be deducted from the teaching ter and more advantageous to the lesson to be deducted from the teaching ter and more advantageous to the lesson to be deducted from the teaching ter and more advantageous to the lesson to be deducted from the teaching terms and more advantageous to the lesson to be deducted from the teaching terms and more advantageous to the lesson to be deducted from the teaching terms and more advantageous to the lesson to be deducted from the teaching terms and more advantageous to the lesson to be deducted from the teaching terms and more advantageous to the lesson to be deducted from the teaching terms and more advantageous to the lesson terms are advantageous to the lesson terms and the lesson terms are advantageous terms and terms are advantageous terms a its evil suggestions. Still the hon, of our history? The lesson we should country to disallow this Manitoba unjust, it is the part of statesmanship gentleman seems to think lightly deduce is that if it was a wise provision school act? But, sir, in this matter the He thought it would be to establish this power in the constitu- hon, gentlemen, as usual, apply their misery if we had a civil and religious tion for the supervision of the Local doctrine just as it suits them. When It would be misery, most Legislatures, perhaps it was not they think it is convenient to apply the certainly. But if religious war is to dictated by unmixed wisdom. be brought into this country, by whose For experience has taught us it is inconvenient they do not apply it. action will it be brought but by the that this remedy of interference with Now, I refer to this matter simply as action of this Government, which, al- local legislation has never been ap- an answer to the claim which was

> of interference you run grave risk of Council; they stated specifically that if creating a grievance on the part of the a court confirmed the validity of the majority. But the remedy of interfer-

remedy without causing as much dis-

HISTORY OF THE SCHOOL CASE. The judgment of the court of last re-

An hon, member-How ? ven I could likewise commend their buried in the grave of the last man still more extensive powers, because year. One of these acts was an act laws of eternal truth and justice on the charge them with de- deprived of the very evidence upon sound judgment and good sense. To of that generation whose manhood Parliament here can interfere and sub-

Schools, one was an act establishing matters of education. Is that denied? can choose between the option; but a cattle quarantine, and the last was No, that is not denied. The Legisla- there is deceit in some way; there has

toba under competent legislation and by Dominion Land Patents, involves a breach of faith by causing a detrimental change in the violation of those sacred rights which he has jurisdiction to hear our prayer terms on which the contracts with those Cod here the contracts with those contracts with the contract contracts with the contract contracts with the contract contract contract contracts with the contract contract contract contracts with the contract contract contra companies were made.

Sir, it was confiscation. If I rememdisallowed the cattle quarantine act, Manitoba school act.

Mr. Moncrieff-Would the hon. gentleman allow me to ask him a question? Does he think that the Government should have disallowed that

GOVERNMENT PROCEDURE.

tleman asked me what was my view.

the methods of coercion in order to re- discontent; that you cannot apply that ment in this case acted simply as satisfaction as satisfaction. It must be referred the minority to the courts to FEATURES OF THE CONSTITUTION evident that while you redress the test the validity of the act. And you Dominion Government would take up their claims. Well, they went before it. the courts and they were not suc-

been removed, and never will passed by Local Legislatures. In matentirely disappear until it is ters of education the Government has Government of Canada the following lable of it, there are to be found those tion, but they held that the facts were upon these facts being known, were

entrapped into the belief that they ernment here will place on the answer possessed that power. But, though to this question a greater weight than

has called

of Manitoba in their petitions to be that they have such a grievance to offer to the people of Canada. They sciences are outraged, it seems to

they made a compact between themselves and the Government of Canada, and that a compact was made between the Crown of Enghas been violated, and if a comwas violated I hold, at all events for to be one of the violations of

we to deal with them except by investifour years ago, when the reference seemed to me that this is a strong and was made to the Judicial Committee of powerful argument in favor of the minthe Privy Council? Have we more ority. If they could show that they

knowledge to-day? An hon, member-We do not require

the bulwarks which was a protection Mr. Laurier-I will come to that by- case, which should go in their favor cessful. The court decided that and-bye. Are the facts, I ask, better in the judgment of all Canadians who the act was valid and within the known to-day than they were four love their country. Then Mr. Ewart's power and purview of the Manitoba years ago? The knowledge we have third argument was: "That the Libcourts, first to the Supreme Court, fered with." The fourth arguand then to the Judicial Committee of ment was allied to the third arthe Privy Council. The hon, gentle- gument, and was that subsequently, a man (Sir Charles Tupper) a few mo- similar agreement ments ago read some of the questions. been made, and There were six, but some of them may proceeded as follows, and I call the atbe dismissed. The first question was tention of the House to the language this : "Is the appeal referred to in the used by Mr. Ewart :serted thereby such an appeal as is 1867, or by sub-section 2 of section 22 ants of Manitoba; third, the promises made of the Manitoba act, 33 Victoria (1870), by the Liberal party in Manitoba; and, chapter 3, Canada ?" To this question fourth, the promises made by the Greenway and I come to question 5, to which I facts are known, then that which has been be as stated therein, or has his facts to be as stated therein; assumasked of them. I ask, were the Gov- presented the Greenway Government If they were not of the same opinion If you tell me this, then I say and could not state that the facts were I give every allowance to the claim | Confederation was to the people of But our constitution goes much furity would have had redress of their line bon gentlement which asNova Scotia synonymous with oppress them. It gives to the Dominion Governconstitution. I take issue with them, swer was given in the af- than that should happen I would with-Mr. Laurfer-I will tell the hon, gen- I stand also upon the constitution, and firmative. These hon, gentlemen draw the affidavits, and rest the case

We are told that the Legislature of casion. I charge them with decell Manitoba has the right to legislate in either four years ago or to-day; they ture of Manitoba has the right to es- been deceit all along, and, because tion; but the constitution also man of my creed and race that I says that although the Manitoba should assail the basis of this bill. I do Legislature had the right to pass so because I am of the creed and race that act, the minority has an of the minority, I do so because I beappeal to this Government and to this lieve that the minority have a strong Parliament; but again I assert that if case to present to the people of Canada you tell me that this appeal is to be whenever they have the chance to do granted as a matter of course without | so, and I do not want their case to rest an inquiry, without any investigation on falsehoods of any kind. Let the whatever, I repeat what I said a mo- truth be presented and I believe it will ment ago, that this power of legisla- appeal to the heart and conscience of tion on education was a most fatal any man, no matter what his creed and gift to place in the hands of the Pro- race, but I do not want the case to go vince. It was not only a fatal gift, on false facts presented by hon, genbut it was a delusive right. It was a tlemen opposite, I spoke a moment ago snare to entrap the Legislature into in regard to the reference to humiliation. Because, if they had not the Privy Council and the questhe right to pass legislation, if it was tion whether the Government had far beyond the power of the Province, the right to pass these remedial then the Provincial Government were orders, Shall we be told that the Gov-

mind of every man, which is a merely ask that it should be held that every man, and which the Greek poet proper to do so." The decision was that the Governor in Council had jurisdic-Heaven's law, unwritten and unchangeable. | tion to make the remedial orders if he thought proper; but how was he to come to a conclusion except by investigation of the facts? And what was the construction put upon the judgment by the minority themselves when they came before the Privy Council of Canada? Did Mr. Ewart, the counsel for the minority, say the Government were bound to act immediately without any more inquiry into the facts? Why, the very first thing that Mr. Ewart proposed to do was to put but when they did not disallow the Heaven's law, unwritten and unchangeable. before the Privy Council of Canada induce the Government of Canada and the Parliament of Canada to grant to the minority that relief which he was seeking for. Mr. Ewart commenced by stating that he rested his case upon land and themselves, and that this four or five facts which, being proved, were sufficient, in his judgment, to enpact to which the Crown was a party title the minority to the relief which they were seeking. The first is to be my part, that this ought to be held found at page 22 of the book, Mr. Ewart says :- "My first argument is These are the grievances which the this: The people of Canada made a minority of Manitoba have to urge solemn agreement that in Manitoba upon this Parliament. How are we the schools should be separto know what the facts are? How are ate." He asked that if that agreement had been made and gation and by inquiry? Sir, we say if it were proved to have been made, this is the position that ought to be then it should bind the people of Cantaken by everybody. This is the posi- ada in honor to maintain it against the necessity for inquiry. Their ground Senate was abolished." Well, second is that the case has been settled by the chambers are not very popular nowa-Judicial Committee of the Privy Coun- days, but if they have a value, and they cil, and the decree leaves them no should have that value, it is that they option to do anything but one thing, ought to be and are a protection for what they are doing to-day-direct in- the minority. The Roman Catholic terference. Such is their conclusion, If minority in Manitoba, Mr. Ewart so, let us inquire into it for a moment. said, did not view in a fav-They tell us the facts have been set- orable light the abolition of their tled by the decree of the Privy Coun- | Senate, but they were made to agree to cil, and there cannot be any ques- it upon the representations made to tion now for the Government to in- them that their schools and their instivestigate and determine. Are the facts tutions should never be tampered with better known to-day than they were by the Legislature of Manitoba, and it

> to their rights and liberties and privileges, it seems to me it is a strong

> were induced to make away with one of

are asked for in the indignant action by the relation of such

Protestants of Canada, and to the people of Canada, and Mr. Ewart ventured the opinion that as soon as these facts would be known these injustices would be remedied. But I am sorry dently, rather than undergo the delay, because he wanted that remedial bill last session, withdrew all his last session, withdrew all his affidavits when Sir Mackenzie Bowell stated that they would allow Mr. McCarthy to produce affidavits in reply to those produced by Mr. Ewart. Mr. Ewart then

"Allow me to say that that would tion, have become reconciled to the perhaps it was a very great mistake. Heman how, The hon, gentleman, I rest the case on the judgment of tell us to-day that the facts upon the other material." Well, sir, idea of Confederation. The hon, gen- Under our constitution the Dominion perhaps, has not forgotten that in 1890 every Canadian; of all men who be- are well known and require no investi- the Liberals of Canada, the Protesttention and the motive of the Govern- licens of Confederation, the people of Canada, the ment I commend their intention, I terness of the initial coercion has never allow within a certain period all acts four acts, which came up for review not above the constitution, but in it, the courts which had to decide the ada, upon whom Mr. Ewart relied to