

Government, it would be becoming in the present Government not to make any pretentious claims, but to plainly state that what the Province now required was simply an upright and honest administration of its affairs. The present Government had not inaugurated any public institution except the inebriate asylum at Hamilton, which was not yet completed. As it would benefit very few of the community, he hoped the building would be converted into an insane asylum. The Province had expected the introduction of a measure for consolidating the assessment laws, and sweeping away all exemptions from taxation, for public opinion was favourable thereto. He still hoped the Attorney-General would introduce a Bill with that object. He was strongly of opinion that at least all real estate should bear its share of taxation. With reference to the boundary between us and Manitoba, he remembered, upon the formation of the Mackenzie Ministry, having a conversation with its members, and he had understood Mr. Mackenzie to say that we were entitled to have the boundary the same as that of the old Province of Quebec, but it now seemed, between the Government at Ottawa and this one, they were unable to get at the boundaries. He claimed that the Government had brought on the late elections earlier than they should, in order to strengthen their positions on the Treasury benches. He referred to the Bill for the redistribution of the seats, and said that the reason for not changing the small constituency of Cornwall was not the one the Attorney-General had assigned at the time, but because of a letter written by a strong Government supporter, urging him not to change the Eastern constituencies as they would all return Government men.

Mr. BAXTER disputed the statement that immigrants were better used in the Western States than in Ontario. It was contrary to the evidence before the House, for they had many very valuable lands in this Province fit for settlers, and the inducements offered to immigrants were strong ones. He agreed with the hon. gentleman who had just spoken as to the advisability of using the present Inebriate Asylum at Hamilton for a lunatic asylum. He believed that the people would object to assistance being given to railways in the older parts of the country, and he hoped the Government would consider this in framing their railway appropriations. He approved of the proposed change in educational affairs, and said the gentleman whose name had been mentioned as the first Minister of Education was one in every way admirably fitted for the position. (Hear, hear.) He believed the measures of the Government would be brought forward with energy.

Mr. PRESTON charged the Government with having gerrymandered the constituencies in their Act of last session, and said that notwithstanding this the Opposition had been strengthened. Referring to the proposed changes in the management of educational affairs, he said he was of the impression that the appointment of a Minister of Education would result in making education a partizan matter. In the Province of Quebec they had tried the plan of having a Minister of Education, but now were thinking of doing away with that system and placing educational matters in the hands of a commission.

Mr. McMAHON said he had at one time considered the ballot un-British, but he would state in reference to what the member for East Toronto had said, that if he (Mr. Cameron) was satisfied with the action of the ballot in West Toronto, he (Mr. McMahon) was equally well satisfied with its effect in North Wentworth. (Laughter.) The member for East Toronto had charged the Hon. Commissioner of Public Works of going electioneering in South Victoria and arousing religious animosities, but he thought he (Mr. Cameron) was the last man who should make a charge of that kind. He had once heard the Minister of Public Works deliver a political address in Wentworth, and he could say that it had contained not a single reference to religious matters. (Hear, hear.) As it might be of some interest to the House he would explain exactly what he knew regarding the keeping of one of the polling places in North Wentworth closed to a late hour. During the contest in North Wentworth, some five or six gentlemen were required to act as scrutineers in his (Mr. McMahon's) interest in various parts of the Riding. A gentleman named Ross was sent to the pol-

ling-place in West Flamboro', which adjoined the residence of Dr. Miller, his opponent, who was present at the opening of the poll. The returning officer was a Conservative, the deputy returning officer was a Conservative, and the poll-clerk was a Conservative. (Hear, hear.) His scrutineer objected to the validity of the commission sent to the deputy returning officer, and said if he improperly opened the poll he would be liable to a penalty of \$200. He did not forbid him to open the poll, and used no threats of any kind. At 11 o'clock, when he (Mr. McMahon) received information of the matter, he proceeded to the polling-booth and found it closed, the deputy returning officer having gone to Hamilton to consult the returning officer. Reference had been made to the introduction of religious cries, and for that the member for East Toronto was as much responsible as any one in the Province. From the time of his nomination in North Wentworth everything went smoothly until within a week of the opening of the campaign, and then what was the course of the followers of hon. gentlemen opposite? They hounded him from one end of the county to the other. Not an election had been held in the county for twenty-five years in which there was so much maliciousness, vindictiveness, and animosity displayed. The hon. gentleman's followers hunted in pairs. (Laughter.) Not a half, perhaps not a third, of the Catholics in the Riding were clear Grits. One gentleman was talked about as the nominee of hon. gentlemen opposite, but when he found he would not be taken up by the Conservative side, he swallowed the leek and went out with a Protestant gentleman. The one would go to a Catholic voter and say—"You are not going to vote for McMahon, are you? He is about to be excommunicated (laughter), he is without the pale of the Church, he is married to a Protestant"—forgetting to state that he was himself married to two (laughter)—"he is a freemason," forgetting to add that he was one also. (Laughter and cheers.) The other would go to a Protestant and say—"You are not going to vote for that Dogan McMahon, are you? (Loud laughter.) You are not going to disgrace yourselves in the North Riding of Wentworth?" But the result was they played it too far—(hear, hear)—and three days before the polling day they made one desperate attempt to place the county once again in the hands of the Tories. He (Mr. McMahon) had never been a lawyer and a Minister of the Crown receiving the public money, and going into the courts to defend prisoners, he had not even been an emigration agent and received the funds of the Dominion of Canada to the amount of \$10,000 or \$15,000 for sending a few emigrants here, and translating good Scandinavian into bad English (hear, hear, and laughter), but a pastoral address was got up against him, a copy of which he had in his hands. This was what the dirty rag contained:—

"Pastoral Address To The Faithful,—Dear Children of the Holy Apostolic Church, be always on your guard against the scheming intrigues of our Heretical enemies who has worked for generations to sap the foundation of our Holy Religion. We have through the Blessing of God made rapid strides for the recovery of the lost Power of the Church the last few years, we have our Convents, Cathedrals, Churches, and Schools spread like a network throughout the vast Continent of America. In Canada our sons who has been elected to fill Legislative Halls have stood like a solid phalanx for the elevation and support of our Holy Church and great blessings has been the results, we have Convents and separate schools established in every town and city in the Dominion that our children may not be contaminated with the society of the Heriticks whose poisonous doctrines drags them down to perdition, you have now an opportunity to add another support to our cause, by electing to the Legislative Assembly one of our sons of the Church, who will use his utmost endeavors to overthrow the Tyrannical Power of our Scotch enemies who has for generations tried to trample our Holy Religion in the dust." (Loud laughter.) Perhaps the member for East Grey would say "Your side issued that," but the House would hardly believe they would do anything so suicidal. A man in the Riding wrote a letter denying that he was the author, and the next day wrote another letter saying that what he wrote on the first day was a downright falsehood, and he was the author. (Laughter and cheers.) The night before the polling that bill was scattered through the township of Beverley, where the electors were mostly Scotch and