

find a man who is proud that he belongs to the great British empire, that empire that has done more to advance Christianity, education and civilization in this world than any other nation. Sir, I have faith that those two new provinces will become great and loyal provinces, provinces of which the rest of the Dominion will feel proud; and that if the British empire ever wants the assistance of her children in Canada, those provinces of the west will be among the first to show their devotion, their loyalty and patriotism to the Crown and to the British flag.

Now, Mr. Speaker, when the Prime Minister introduced his first Bill into this House that which is now known as Autonomy Bill No. 1—I think that is a name that some one gave it, and it is a very good name—when he first introduced that Bill into this House, he made a very eloquent speech. It was the first time that I had had the pleasure of listening to the right hon. gentleman in an important speech and I must say I was delighted with his eloquence and his grand oratory. I was proud of the fact that Canada had a Prime Minister with such great oratorical ability as the right hon. gentleman. If there was any part of his address that was more eloquent than another, it was that part in which he advocated the teaching of dogmas in our schools. When he reached that part of his address he seemed to throw his whole soul, his whole spirit into it, and he advocated the teaching of dogmas as earnestly as it was possible for him to do. I listened to him with the greatest admiration. When he was so earnest in advocating that Bill and when he was so eloquent in introducing it, I imagined that he consistently and honestly believed in the measures which were contained in the Bill and I little dreamed that within a few hours, within a few days at the most, we would see in this House the humiliating spectacle of the hon. member for Brandon (Mr. Sifton) leading the Prime Minister into this House like a whipped child and making him stand up and withdraw the Bill that he had introduced or at least that portion of the Bill which gave separate schools in their entirety to the people of the west. But, such was the spectacle that we witnessed. Hon. gentlemen opposite, especially those from the province of Quebec, applauded most vociferously when the right hon. Prime Minister did this. I wondered what it was they were applauding. I wondered if they were delighted with the fact that the hon. member for Brandon had conquered the Prime Minister and the Minister of Justice and I may say that the Minister of Finance (Mr. Fielding) as well was associated with the hon. member for Brandon. I wondered if they were pleased. It seemed so because they applauded and pounded their desks and if these desks had not been made of good strong Canadian timber they would

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hardly have withstood the blows. But there was the hon. member for Brandon; he was looking the right hon. leader of the government in the face and saying that he had to do just as he told him he must do. He was making him stand up there and withdraw that clause of the Bill that gave separate schools and church endowment to the Roman Catholic people of these new provinces. It reminded me of the old fable of Davy Crockett and the coon. You remember that Davy said: If you do not come down I will shoot, and that the coon said: If you do not shoot I will come down. So, the right hon. leader of the government came down and the hon. member for Brandon did not shoot. The hon. member for Brandon had a following in this House; he had behind him that contingent of hon. gentlemen from the Northwest. Until this time there was no evidence that these hon. gentlemen from the Northwest, or from Nova Scotia, or from any other part of this Dominion who were supporting the right hon. gentleman were not delighted with the Bill he had first introduced. There was no division in the ranks. In private conversations that I had with some of them they were loud in their praises. It was just the Bill that was required, just the Bill that should be introduced. There was no division. This Bill was prepared by a select committee. The majority being Protestant in this country they thought it wise to make the majority of the committee Roman Catholic so that there would be three Roman Catholics on the committee to one Protestant. They prepared this Bill. The one Protestant was the hon. Postmaster General (Sir William Mulock) and probably he was, like he generally is in the House, asleep when the Bill was prepared. Anyway when the hon. member for Brandon and the hon. Minister of Finance came home they objected and when they objected, these other hon. gentlemen, like a flock of sheep, objected too, but they never had objected up to this time and I was quite surprised the other night to hear the hon. member for South Renfrew (Mr. Wright) extol the virtues of this Bill. One would never have dreamed that he was one of the mutineers who had been on strike himself. There may have been a great many more striking than we had any idea of. Anyway the hon. gentlemen from Quebec seemed to be delighted. They were either delighted with the fact that the hon. member for Brandon had got the best of the right hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Minister of Justice, or that the right hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Minister of Justice had got the best of the hon. member for Brandon. I do not know hardly which it was. I think though that they had confidence in the hon. Minister of Justice. I think they had confidence in his great ability, and I must say I am an admirer of the Minister of Justice. I think he is a very clever man indeed. In