

Some hon. MEMBERS. Oh, oh; where?

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. The hon. gentlemen opposite like to throw out their gibes and their flouts, but it is clear that if the province of Manitoba had been extended westward, even if it were only one meridian, it would have knocked the constitutional argument of the Prime Minister into a cocked hat. And if Manitoba were extended westward, that portion included in it would be free from this separate school clause. Now, then, I want to deal with the solid Quebec and what they are doing in regard to this school question. This is a question that never should have come into this House. It is a local question which could be settled in a local way, and which should not be spread out in the Dominion parliament as a federal issue. It should have been settled in the province; it should have been left to the west.

Mr. BRODEUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I do not think the hon. gentleman should discuss the Bill which is now engaging the attention of the House.

Mr. SPEAKER. I think that is the rule.

Mr. BENNETT. Take it up to Centre Toronto.

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. Then I have this to say, that this Bill which is the subject of discussion here to-day—

Some hon. MEMBERS. Order.

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. If hon. gentlemen will have it that way, I will leave it with them; but I have this to say in conclusion, that any legislation which is attempted in this House in regard to this matter will receive whatever opposition I can command, and the opposition of a considerable number of the members from Ontario. The right hon. gentleman is near the exhaustion of his supplies, and, so far as I am concerned, I wish to tell him now that no legislation of the character that he has introduced without consulting the people of the west will be allowed to go through committee or any other stage as long as I am able to oppose it, with some others who will be associated with me in that work. This legislation is not in the interest of the people of Canada. There will be meetings held in this country from one end to the other.

An hon. MEMBER. Hold them now.

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. All right. Hon. gentlemen may make these statements here; but let them come out on the platform with me, and see who will get a hearing. Let the right hon. gentleman open a constituency in the west if he dare. Let him put up his candidate in Centre Toronto to justify the statements made here to-day. Let the Postmaster General dare to face a meeting in the city of Toronto. He dare not go even

into his own constituency of North York and discuss this Bill. I will go into North York and discuss it before his own electors. I challenge him now to name the day and the place in North York where he will discuss this measure with me. Or I will resign my seat if he will resign his seat, and I will run against him in North York. Mr. Speaker, I repeat that I will resign my seat in South York and run against the Postmaster General in North York where he had a majority of nearly one thousand. And I challenge the member for London (Mr. Hyman) to resign his seat, and I will go and run against him there. I challenge my hon. friend from Centre York (Mr. Campbell) to do the same. That hon. gentleman would have been to-day in the cabinet but for this legislation; but because of this legislation his career is absolutely wound up, and he dare not resign his seat. But if he does, I will resign mine and run against him in Centre York. Yes, I will go further: I will resign my seat, and I will run in Oxford if the government care to make a vacancy there, and I will make only the one issue, the abandonment of provincial rights by this government, which at one time professed to be the champion of provincial rights. Later on I intend to expand much more fully on this question, when I suppose I shall be more in order than I am to-day. But I do now challenge the Prime Minister and those who sit alongside of him. Where is the Minister of Justice (Mr. Fitzpatrick) who is implicated in these statements, and who ought to be here to-day? I expect hon. gentlemen opposite to make a statement on this matter to-morrow. I expect them to go to the Papal ablegate, who is here at their request, and get from him a statement which will clear them of the charge made to-day. The denial which has been made is no denial. It is not even an explanation to the country, which to-day is demanding that an answer be made to the statement made in that letter of Mr. Rogers and no answer is forthcoming. The people want to know if those two propositions were submitted to the Minister of Public Works of Manitoba. The people want to know if there was a reference in that interview to the question of the Manitoba boundaries; and, if it is true, they want to know what the government of Canada intend to do. We know what President Cleveland did with the British ambassador. The moment he was trapped into making a statement which he should not have made, President Cleveland gave him his passport. I say that the right hon. gentleman, as a member of the Dominion government, and the forty members of parliament who were associated with him, are bound to send Mr. Russell to Rome, even at the expense of the Dominion, to ask for the recall of this Italian priest who has had the temerity to interfere with