

two provinces, when forty or fifty years later you make provinces out of the Northwest Territories, you are, on account of that compact, to establish separate schools for the minorities in those provinces.

Now, hon. gentlemen will see how elastic a compact this is when it can be construed in 1896 to apply to all the provinces, and can be construed by the same hon. gentleman in 1905 to apply to only two of them. It is quite evident that what occurred in 1867—and there is no dispute about it—was a compromise. This compact was made applicable, it is alleged by some, to only two provinces, and applicable, as alleged by others, to all the provinces. The language of the British North America Act, I would submit, clearly applies to all those entering the union. So, there was no difference between the parties at that time, nor any difference between the creeds. In 1870, Sir John Macdonald and his government created the province of Manitoba. There is no doubt that at that time, the hon. gentleman sought to place upon that province the separate school and the dual language system. That was acquiesced in by the Liberals. In 1875, a Liberal administration was in power. They introduced a Bill for the better government of the Northwest Territories, providing—not as originally brought down, but as subsequently amended in committee—for separate schools under what is now clause 14 of that Act, and likewise providing for the dual language system. I desire to read clause 14, because I shall have to refer to it later on:

14. The Lieutenant Governor in Council shall pass all necessary ordinances in respect to education; but it shall therein always be provided, that a majority of the ratepayers of any district or portion of the territories, or of any less portion or subdivision thereof, by whatever name the same is known, may establish such schools therein as they think fit, and make the necessary assessment and collection of rates therefor; and also that the minority of the ratepayers therein, whether Protestant or Roman Catholic, may establish separate schools therein,—and in such case, the ratepayers establishing such Protestant or Roman Catholic separate schools shall be, liable only to assessment of such rates as they impose upon themselves in respect thereof.

2. The power to pass ordinances, conferred upon the Lieutenant Governor by this section is hereby declared to have been vested in him from the seventh day of May, 1888.

That clause, was acquiesced in by the Conservative party. The only objection raised to it at all was in the Senate, by the hon. George Brown, who warned this country and warned this parliament that if this legislation was enacted it would give foundation for a claim such as that which is now being urged. So, at this time we have both political parties practically at agreement on this subject. In 1880, this parliament again dealt with the North-

west Territories in a point directing to another branch of my argument. In that year a portion of the district of Keewatin was added to the province of Manitoba. And parliament added that territory to Manitoba without any restriction; it took away whatever rights Keewatin had and placed the territory on the same basis as the rest of Manitoba. So, that portion added to Manitoba in 1880 was made subject to the Manitoba charter, and released entirely by this parliament from any laws, rights or privileges which it had up to 1880. The point I make is that we have on this occasion equal freedom to deal with these new provinces, and to give them a charter such as we deem in their best interest. In 1889 or 1890 this question was mooted in this country. Notwithstanding the disparaging remarks made by the hon. member for East Simcoe (Mr. Bennett) to the effect that I showed too much pride in my ancestors and in my family, I can only say that if I did so it is because I cannot help it. And I am not ashamed of it, but proud of it, and care not who knows it. In 1889, Mr. Dalton McCarthy pointed out to this House certain things; he pointed out to this country certain things. He said in that year that the separate schools system of Manitoba was not a wise system; he said that the dual language system imposed upon Manitoba was not a wise system. He said also that the dual language and the separate school systems of the Northwest Territories were not wise. Hon. gentlemen who were in the House at that time will remember the motions made and the discussions that took place. It was only after many defeats, many rebuffs, that the first sign of success on his part was seen. Sir John Thompson agreed to the passing of a motion which relegated to the Territorial government of the Northwest Territories the right to deal with the language question. It is worthy of note that at that time Sir John Thompson made a clear distinction between the language question and the school question. He gave in on the language question, but on the school question he refused to give in, as hon. gentlemen who were here at the time will remember. This happened in the session of 1892. Both parties acquiesced in that, I believe, though there may have been some dissentient voices—I am not sure about that. But, in the December following, Sir John Thompson being then premier, saw fit to read out of the Conservative party Mr. Dalton McCarthy because that gentleman dared to give utterance to views which hon. gentleman opposite are expressing to-day. There were only two questions on which he was giving expression to opinions not acceptable to the government of that day, and they were the separate school question of Manitoba and the separate school question of the Northwest Territories. As a matter of fact, the language question had