

An hon. MEMBER. What is No. 6?

Mr. PATERSON. No. 6 is the old room that we were in for 18 years and that the opposition are in now. When we were in opposition and when we occupied that room our leader used to visit us sometimes there. Did the hon. leader of the opposition visit that room when Mr. Rogers was there? Has he seen Mr. Rogers? Has he talked with Mr. Rogers? I ask the question and he does not deny it; therefore, according to his argument, it is a confession.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. I may tell my hon. friend (Mr. Paterson), if he is so inquisitive, that I was not in Ottawa at the time.

Mr. PATERSON. May I ask the hon. gentleman another question? Was he away from Ottawa all the time these delegates were here?

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. No, I was not.

Mr. PATERSON. Then he saw these gentlemen, I suppose?

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. I certainly saw Mr. Rogers.

Mr. PATERSON. Ah ha! Oh yes! That is very good.

We can get something out of this cross-questioning. Here is a letter posted from No. 6; we find the leader of the opposition in conversation with Mr. Rogers; we find Mr. Rogers' letter, and Mr. Rogers after a time tells us what is in this letter.

Mr. BARKER. Oh, no, you don't find the letter.

Mr. PATERSON. I am alluding to Mr. Rogers' manifesto, if you may call it that.

Mr. HENDERSON. Where did you find it?

Mr. PATERSON. In the 'Citizen.' An interview took place, as is alleged, between the Papal ablegate and the Manitoba delegates, but, it now appears that it was only with Mr. Campbell. There is great indignation expressed by hon. gentlemen opposite because some one on this side of the House, as they suppose, had arranged for that interview in some way. If there was something so very wrong in that interview, as these gentlemen suppose—notwithstanding that any knowledge or any connection with it by any one on this side of the House is absolutely denied—what kind of characters are these gentlemen opposite who consort with the men who went there, and held that interview? Mr. Rogers professes to tell us what transpired, and what the ablegate said. I submit it would be of still greater interest to know what these people said in reply to the ablegate. If the thing was so very bad and so very wrong on the part of the ablegate, if it was such an encroachment of the church on the state, if it was such an awful thing,

Mr. PATERSON.

how is it that these Manitoba ministers listened to it? Why did he not rise and say: sir, you insult me; the idea of trying to propose to this country what you have proposed; I will out of your house and never enter it again. But, Mr. Rogers, or Mr. Campbell, manifested no indignation, or at least the indignation was bottled up six weeks nearly before we heard anything about it. And yet these very gentlemen opposite are the men who talk about this government having something to do with the gentleman who occupies a high position in connection with one of the churches of the land. My hon. friend from East Grey does not think that the ablegate drew up these clauses himself, and the only one he could think of was the Minister of Justice, and when the Minister of Justice did not rise at once to contradict him—the Minister of Justice would be on his feet all the time if he tried to keep contradicting all the suspicions of the member for East Grey—the hon. gentleman took it for granted that the charge was proven, till the Minister of Justice thought it worth while to tell him that he was altogether mistaken. The member for East Grey wants to know who drew the clauses. I cannot tell. I believe the Colin Campbell he was interviewing is the Attorney General of Manitoba, and it seems to me that it would be a more natural conclusion to arrive at that Mr. Campbell wrote the clauses than that they were written by the Minister of Justice, who knew nothing about it at all. But talking about interviewing people and talking about rumours, with which the leader of the opposition and his friends deal so largely. When the leader of the opposition got the emphatic denial of the Prime Minister yesterday, the best thing left for him to say, as he thought, was: well, this thing has been rumoured and why didn't the Prime Minister deny it sooner? That was a mighty poor refuge for the leader of the opposition to seek. But, I think there were some rumours a couple of years ago when the leader of the opposition and his band of trained followers made an excursion out west to try and capture the votes of the people. The member for East Grey was with the party, and rumour had it that when they got to Winnipeg the member for East Grey left the party. Might I ask if that is true?

Mr. SPROULE. What has that to do with the question before the House?

Mr. PATERSON. May I ask the member for East Grey if that is true?

Mr. SPROULE. If the question did not come from a minister of the Crown I might deign to answer it, but it seems to me that the question is very far from the discussion.

Mr. PATERSON. Well, then, I shall have to fall back on the rumour, and the