

as its representative to this House, our good friend Mr. Meigs. Montreal, St. Lawrence division, which is represented by my good friend Mr. Bickerdike, has a Protestant population of 10,000 and a Catholic population of 30,000. The county of Pontiac, which is represented by Mr. Brabazon, has a Protestant population of 6,400 and a Catholic population of 16,000. Sherbrooke, which is represented here by my good friend Dr. Worthington, has a Protestant population of 7,000 and a Catholic population of 11,000. Stanstead, which is represented by Mr. Lovell, has a Protestant population of 9,000 and a Catholic population of 9,500. Shefford, which is represented by our eminent friend Mr. Parmelee, has a Protestant population of 5,000 and a Catholic population of 18,000, and I do not blame them at all for electing that gentleman.

Mr. INGRAM. Will the hon. gentleman allow me? We will agree that that is the standing of the two religious parties in the several constituencies; but when it comes to the vote, all the good Protestants will vote for this Bill.

Mr. FIELDING. Let us hope so.

Mr. BELAND. I am not concerned with that at all. They may vote as they please, and I am sure the French Canadian people will never go back on them on that account. Out of the twelve counties in the province of Quebec which are represented in this House by Protestants, there is only one county where the majority is Protestant, and that is the county of Brome, represented here by my hon. friend, the Minister of Agriculture (Hon. Mr. Fisher).

Now, this may not be exactly fair; it may indicate that we are more tolerant than we are in reality. I will take another point of view—that of the whole population of the province. According to the whole population of the province of Quebec, the Protestants would be entitled in this parliament to eight representatives; but they have twelve. What does my hon. friend from East Grey think of that? The 'Evening Telegram,' of Toronto, which makes a specialty of dealing with the question of the tolerance of the provinces of Ontario and Quebec, has the following:

Ontario's tolerance is illustrated in the tendency of every Roman Catholic who represents a Protestant constituency to vote as a liegeman of his church rather than as the citizen of his country, upon questions affecting the aims of the church.

The intolerance of Quebec is illustrated in the spectacle of every Protestant representative voting with an eye to the race and creed prejudices of Quebec, and with vision blinded to the principles of his own race and creed.

Ontario's treatment of the minority that is over-represented in the government, over-represented in the legislature, not equalled by the treatment which the minority receives in any other commonwealth on earth.

Mr. BELAND.

Ontario can match her alleged intolerance against the boasted tolerance of any people on earth. It is an outrage that such a province with such a record should be the recipient of lectures on toleration from the bigots of Quebec.

Well, let us see if it is true that Ontario can match her tolerance against the tolerance of Quebec. In Ontario the Protestant population is 1,800,000, and the Catholic population 390,000. On that basis the Protestants of Ontario are entitled to 72 members in this House and the Catholics to 14 members. What is the representation in reality? Seventy-nine Protestants and seven Catholics, just one-half of what the Catholics are entitled to by their population. These are the figures, irrespective of parties, for they include all the 86 members from the province of Ontario.

But this is not all. Let us take the Dominion as a whole, and see how the representation stands. According to their population, the Catholics are entitled in this House to 87 members, and we have how many? Seventy-two. I hope that my good friend who publishes the Toronto 'Telegram' will publish these figures, which are exact, being based on the census of 1901. That would be only an act of justice on the part of the 'Telegram,' instead of misrepresenting the people of the province of Quebec, as it has done in the past.

I wonder, Mr. Speaker, what the average man of Ontario thinks when he reads such articles as are published to-day in the Toronto newspapers? I wonder if the average farmer of the province of Ontario has ever been taught in his school—I hope he has—what the Catholic clergy have done for this country of ours. I wonder if he has been taught that that same clergy have rendered eminent and inappreciable services to the British Crown during the last 140 years, especially in the acute and critical days of early British rule in America. I wonder if he has been taught that, if he has been informed of the Catholic clergy's unshakable loyalty to the kings and queens of Great Britain since* fate went against us on the Plains of Abraham. If the good farmers of the province of Ontario were taught that the Roman Catholic clergy in the province of Quebec have resisted time and again temptations and inducements to take part in agitations for annexation; if he were taught in his early days what education in the Roman Catholic colleges and universities has done towards supplying this country with men who have gained distinction in literature, in the professions and in agriculture, and who, every one will admit, will stand comparison with those of any other country; if he knew that the great idol of Ontario, the late Sir John Macdonald, declared on a memorable occasion in the city of London, that amongst the most faithful subjects of Her Majesty in Canada were to be ranked the French