

67⁵ Dorchester St
August 15th 77.

J. P. Dawson Esq L. D. M. S. &c

Dear Sir,

I am much obliged to
you for the very kind interest evinced
in your note - I purpose going away
so soon as I can. I had indeed
hoped to have been away before
but Mr Stone Mrs Scott and Mr
Atthey did not do their duty as promptly
as I think they should have done
in the matter of the prospectuses
and I have been detained in
town unnecessarily -

Yours truly
J. P. Roberts

At the regular meeting of the Protestant Board of School Commissioners of the City of Montreal held August 9th 1867

The attention of the Commissioners was directed to the following extract from a sermon delivered on the 15th ultimo, in St Patrick's Church, by Rev Father Seclair, as reported in the 'Gazette' newspaper of the following day. "This spirit of antagonism pervades the whole Protestant body. It reaches even the schools. We asked why it was that the Roman Catholic priests were insulted every day in the streets by Protestant boys and girls, and sometimes by so-called gentlemen. These children only show out what they have been taught, and where do they get their teaching and their manners if not in the churches, the schools or in their own houses? We said that Catholic children were never seen insulting a Protestant minister; they never dreamed of doing such a thing — but that it would be very easy to teach them to do so, if they wished to retaliate. We also said that if peace and harmony were wished for, not only in our own midst but in the whole Dominion, the Protestant press must change its tone, Protestant teaching must not aim at aggression and hatred".

Whereupon it was resolved; —

That the Board, while assured that the character of the Protestant City Schools is too well understood by the citizens of Montreal generally both Roman Catholic and Protestant, to be injuriously affected by the statements contained in the foregoing extract, deem it due to themselves, as having under their educational charge the great majority of the Protestant children of the City, to state that no such teaching as is here indicated has ever disgraced their schools; and, moreover, that instant dismissal would have been visited on any Teacher who should so far have departed from that catholic and generous tone which the Board has ever sought to impart to their system and course of instruction.

(True extract from the Minutes of Proceedings.)

Robins
May 1847

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