

Protestant or Roman Catholic; such as there are receive no support from the Provincial Exchequer, nor from taxes for the like purpose.

#### THE QUEBEC LEGISLATURE

has from time to time since Confederation made amendments to their Separate School law, as the Ontario Legislature has made amendments to the Separate School law here; and I should gather from the last report of the Protestant Committee of Education that the only further amendment they or the Protestants of Quebec are now asking for is as to the division of the school tax paid by incorporated companies. The proceeds of this tax in Quebec is by the present law divided between the Protestant and Roman Catholic Schools according to the population of each in the Province by the last census, and the Protestants desire it to be divided according to the amount of stock held by Roman Catholics and Protestants respectively; which seems most reasonable. In Ontario the tax paid by incorporated companies goes wholly to the Public Schools unless the directors choose to divide it. This they may do by passing a resolution to that effect, and giving notice for the division; and in that case their tax is divided according to the amount of stock held by Protestants and Roman Catholics respectively. The Quebec plan is more favorable to the Roman Catholics of that Province, and the Ontario plan is more favorable to the Protestants of this Province.

#### THE ONTARIO AMENDMENTS.

It has occasionally been said by political opponents since their No-Popery cry was raised, that all amendments of the Separate School Law should have been refused by the Ontario Legislature and Government; that nothing should have been done by the Provincial Legislature for the convenience of the supporters of Separate Schools, or for enabling them to increase the efficiency of their schools. That has not been the course pursued in Quebec towards the Protestant Dissentient or Separate Schools of that Province. Neither has it heretofore been the doctrine of any party in Ontario, nor of any section of our people. Having reference to the terms of the B. N. A. Act, it has always been my opinion since Confederation, that in the interest of Protestants and of the Province, reasonable amendments should not be refused; that no occasion should be given to Roman Catholics to resort to the Dominion Government or the Dominion Parliament for Separate School legislation under the Confederation Act; that