

school law, and new imputations against myself. I will now quote and answer to one by one.

1. *Bishop Charbonnel.* "In Lower Canada, *any number whatever* enjoy the right of establishing separate schools, while in Upper Canada it is necessary for *twelve* resident heads of families to apply in writing to the municipal council or the board of school trustees in any city or incorporated village."

*Answer.* This is not correct. There can be no dissentient school district in Lower Canada, which shall contain less than *twenty* children between the ages of five and sixteen years; nor can any dissentient school be *continued* which is not attended by "at least fifteen children." See sections 4, 19, 26, 27, Act 9 Vic., chapter 27. These conditions are not so easy as those required of the same parties in Upper Canada.

2. *Bishop Charbonnel.* "In Lower Canada, Protestants exercise, without restriction, the right of establishing separate schools, while in Upper Canada, persons desirous of doing so must be either freeholders or householders."

*Answer.* This is a mistake. The Upper Canada School Act specifies "resident heads of families" without any reference to their being freeholders or householders, and the "parties petitioning for and sending children to a separate school" elect the trustees.

3. *Bishop Charbonnel.* "In Lower Canada, Protestants have only to signify their intention of having started a separate school, while in Upper Canada before any proceedings are taken, Catholics must apply to a Protestant Board, before their school can have an existence." "That the right has been bestowed of establishing separate schools, even where a Protestant teaches a common school."

*Answer.* This is a mistake. The Superintendent of Education in Lower Canada says, in his official circular, "The present act authorises the establishment of dissentient schools *only upon the ground of religious difference*, and to the inhabitants only forming the minority." "The law relating to common schools does not recognise independent [Protestant denominational] schools."

(2) The Lower Canada School Act (9th Victoria, chapter 27, section 23) authorises the commissioners of each school municipality (the same as a board of school trustees in Upper Canada) "to regulate the course of study to be pursued in each school, and to establish general rules for the management of the schools under their care." And in order to establish a dissentient school, the 26th section of the same act provides, "That whenever, in any municipality, the *regulations and arrangements* made by the school commissioners for the conduct of any school, shall *not be agreeable* to any number whatever of the inhabitants *professing a religious faith different* from that of the majority of the inhabitants of such municipality, the inhabitants so dissentient may collectively *signify such dissent in writing to the chairman of said commissioners*, and give in the names of three