

P O S T S C R I P T.

The Law concerning Separate Schools.

There seems to be an idea abroad that the supplementary School Act of 1853 has made the establishment of separate religious schools easier than heretofore. *The opposite is the fact*; and in this the Reverend Superintendent apparently exults in his "Journal of Education" for June last.

It is true that where a Romish teacher is employed, Protestants *en masse* may establish a separate school; but no distinct denomination, excepting Romanists, can do so! In truth, the whole thing, as regards the Church of England, is not only gross oppression, but a *decisive insult*.

1st. We protest against being classed, in the matter of our schools, under the general term "Protestant," with every sect who, in common with ourselves, acknowledge that negative appellation. We can assure the Reverend concocter of our most insidiously irreligious Common School Acts, that Churchmen have consciences *almost* as tender concerning distinctive religious truth, as those of the followers of the Papacy; and that, consequently, we would sooner entrust our children to the care of even the idolatrous worshipper of the blessed Virgin than to the cold neglect of a Protestant sectary who would keep them from the arms of their Saviour, by denying them the blessed Sacrament of baptism. Or, that we would immeasurably prefer their being educated by a believer in the supremacy of the Bishop of Rome, than by a member of a Protestant community which denies the divinity of the Lord that bought them! we protest against,

2ndly. The supporters of separate schools being placed, as it were, under the ban of the law, by refusing to let their school rates be collected by the proper municipal officer. Do they not pay their share of that officer's salary, even as others?

3rdly. The uncertainty attending the continuance of aggregate Protestant schools, makes even them a mockery, inasmuch as the moment the Romish teacher is withdrawn, it appears that the right to separate Protestant schools ceases. In fact, had the object of the Reverend Dr. Ryerson and his coadjutors, our Sabbath desecrating Provincial Ministry, been to devise the bitterest insult which they could offer to the religious earnestness of the Province, they could scarcely have