

and powers" thus are absolute and gained in the 13th ds upon a trustee effect in connexion pection, create for tion, to make any n, 11th, 14th, 18th, chap. 48.) and the he supplementary obligations upon nineteen clauses of s preventing them iring semi-annual the 3rd section of demands for the or all the "rights the school act of egraph of which employ their own collecting of all ollected from the the valuation of l." Here is no ng power of the e school trustees l the 2nd section ection of these ent law restrains the dissentients. to a particular axable property this all, for—

that it gives the ouncils as over of 1850, above municipality, to s it the duty of or, from all the this draft of bill es, if the muni- a, as well as the school sections.

6. A sixth feature of this draft of bill is, that it ties the hands of all public school trustees (were any to exist,) from doing anything for their own schools without doing also as much for the separate schools; for the sixth section of this draft of bill requires "all taxes for school and library purposes," as well as "any provincial and municipal funds," to be paid to the trustees of separate schools, in proportion "to the population they represent, according to the last official census." Thus, whatever might be done by any parties for the erection of public school-houses, or the support of public schools, they could not raise a penny by taxes even from themselves, without dividing it with the trustees of separate schools, who are not subject to corresponding obligations—who may do nothing whatever—and who are to receive not in proportion to their taxable property, but in proportion to population, though the ratio of that population may be three times that of the taxes they pay, as is the case even in the city of Toronto.*

I might remark upon other minor features of this draft of bill, and show its operations in other respects. But the six features I have exhibited, sufficiently prove that it contemplates the complete destruction of our public school system, and the subjection of the school funds, municipalities and property, and whole population of Upper Canada to a religious domination such as is without a parallel in any age, and is incompatible with the free government or liberties of any country. I doubt whether the ingenuity of man could devise under meeker pretensions, and in fewer words, the destruction of the educational institutions and the constitutional liberties of a whole people, and their prostrate subjection under the feet of a religious denomination. The authors of this draft of bill must have presumed marvellously upon their own power, and upon the simplicity of the members of the legislature. I am persuaded that no persons will more promptly recoil from and repel such a measure than the great body of the Roman Catholic members of the legislature and of the community, who will be grieved and ashamed to see the worst imputations of their opponents exceeded by the monstrous propositions covertly involved in what is demanded by Bishop Charbonnel and his colleagues, under the pretext of "satisfying their conscientious convictions."

The members of the legislature now have the issues of the whole question before them; and they, as well as the people of Upper Canada at large, will understand their rights, their interests and their duty.

III.—*Course of proceeding which I have pursued, and which Bishop Charbonnel has pursued towards me, in respect to separate schools.*

Having examined Bishop Charbonnel's statements and analysed the provisions of his draft of bill, I will now briefly advert to the course of proceeding which I have pursued, and which Bishop Charbonnel has adopted towards me, in respect to separate schools.

* The Trustees of the Roman Catholic Separate Schools in Toronto in 1852, claimed £1,150 for their schools; and in reporting upon this demand, the Committee of the Board of School Trustees state that—"From a recent return your Committee find that the total annual value of the taxable property in the city amounts to £188,983 5s:—of this the proportion held by Roman Catholics is £15,750 10s. The total nett amount of school tax for last year, at 2½d in the pound, was £1,800: the nett proportion contributed by the Roman Catholic inhabitants was only £156 10s."