

supporting a demand for the abolition of Separate Schools, but in this he was not followed by all his friends on his own side of the House, nor by his followers in the country. He had also disclaimed the view urged by others that it was the duty of the Government to do nothing that would increase the efficiency of Separate Schools. On former occasions the hon. member had been very distinct in expressing his opinion that Separate Schools were entitled to have whatever legislation would increase their efficiency. He had said something similar now. But not so with some of his followers. On the contrary, the Government had been found fault with, though not in this debate, because it had favoured legislation calculated to increase the efficiency of these schools; it had been contended that nothing should be done in that direction.

But while on these two points the hon. member differed from his supporters, he had by no means refrained from making the same sort of appeal here and elsewhere as his friends in the House and outside made. For this purpose the hon. member had read extracts from various Roman Catholic journals, claiming deference and obedience from the laity to the bishops and priests in matters relating to Separate Schools. That was a matter on which the sentiments expressed by these journals, or by the Roman Catholic clergy, were not the sentiments of Protestants on the Government side of the House, any more than of Protestants on the Opposition side. As for Roman Catholics, it was for themselves to decide what amount of obedience they owed to their clergy, and what amount of obedience they would render to them in this matter; how far the dogmas of their church required such obedience, and how far they would conform their conduct to these dogmas. As for the law, no statutory enactment gave to bishops or priests any authority whatever in the matter. The obligation, where recognised, was not of a legal kind. In the eyes of the law of the Province,

#### NO BISHOP OR PRIEST HAD ANY

more power as regards Separate Schools than, man for man, the lay supporters of these schools had. But the fact has always been known to the general public, that educational matters are pronounced by the authorities of the Church of Rome to be matters of religion, as much so, so he understood, as the sacraments are. This doctrine is not new on their part, and the announcement of it is not new. It was known to be a dogma of the Roman Catholic Church when the several Acts relating to Separate Schools