

do during the coming and probably the next week, so that we can take them up and consider them seriatim, clause by clause, and come to a much better decision as to what we shall adopt than we could do if it were done in a hurried manner. There are some of the rules with which I fully concurred last session. During the interim, however, on thinking the matter over I concluded that some improvements might be made in them, and it is very probable other gentlemen may have taken the same view. There is another reason; hon. gentlemen will remember that the rules governing the Divorce Committee were revised on the line of simplifying the proceedings, not in any way, as I understand it, restricting the fullest investigation, but to do away with certain, if I may term it, red tapeism connected with the management of that committee, and as they will have a good deal of work to perform during the present session, there being some fifteen or twenty cases, it would be better if we could adopt the rules with such amendments as the House might deem it advisable to make in order that the committee might work under them during the present session. There is no reason why they should not be adopted before the other rules are considered. The time that will be at our disposal has induced me to make this suggestion, if the hon. gentleman from Halifax approves of it. I appeal to him particularly because he devoted a great deal of time to the question during the last session, and was chairman of the committee to whom the matter was referred.

Hon. Mr. POWER—I am very much obliged to the hon. gentleman for the suggestion which he has made, and which, in fact, anticipated the line of action that, after consultation with one or two friends who were on the committee last session, I thought it should be best to take. I propose to put a notice to that effect on the order paper to-morrow.

#### THE ADDRESS.

#### DEBATE CONTINUED.

The Order of the Day being called ;

Resuming the adjourned debate on the consideration of His Excellency the Governor General's speech on the opening of the second

session of the tenth parliament.—Hon. Mr. Scott.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT said : When six o'clock arrived last night I was commenting upon the remarks of my hon. friend opposite, on the subject he had been discussing, that is the educational clauses, of the Autonomy Bills. I do not purpose to extend any further my remarks on that subject, more than to express my regret at the attitude my hon. friend has taken on this subject, and for this reason. In the year 1870, when the constitution was granted to Manitoba that province was carved out of the territories then just in the same way that the new provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan have been carved out. When the House was considering the constitution to be given Manitoba, my hon. friend left his party, who were pretty united on giving separate schools to the new provinces. He voted with the body then known as the Grits. If you look over the division list you will find that, with a few exceptions, the Conservative party supported the proposition to give Manitoba separate schools. It was thought then that it would be a French province. The French were then in a majority there, and it was considered advisable and proper that the rights of the minority should be protected, just as, for the same reason, it was considered advisable and proper in 1895 to give to the territories which included what are now the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan the separate school system. My hon. friend did not vote with his party in 1870. He had a perfect right to do as he did, but the vote having been carried, he loyally adhered to the principle laid down by parliament that year that separate schools should form part of the constitution of Manitoba. Through good report and evil report my hon. friend stood true to the principle of recognizing that parliament had confirmed the proposition, although the Privy Council had created some confusion in it. He was still willing, although few saw the possibility of accomplishing it, that parliament can be adopted as a channel to re-enact the school law of Manitoba. He was still willing to have carried out the proposition. It will re-ound for ever to his memory, and the minority, the Catholics of Canada, owe him a debt of gratitude for the manner in which