

section of that Bill assumed that as the law now stood a person might be entitled to be assessed as a Separate School supporter without having given the notice which the law required. The Attorney-General objected to the assumption contained in the expression "notwithstanding any provision to the contrary," etc. There is no provision to the contrary. As to the second section, it was so absurd

THAT HE COULD HARDLY BELIEVE

that it was from the hand of the leader of the Opposition. It proposed to make it the duty of the clerk to make the necessary entries upon the roll on this subject of Separate Schools after the roll had been finally revised. He provided no appeal and no machinery for correcting errors as under the present Act. The Bill said that any error of the clerk should not be conclusive, but it provided no means of correcting an error.

MR. MEREDITH.—Supposing the clerk makes a mistake now?

HON. MR. MOWAT.—In our Bill we have a provision which meets such a case. We cannot prevent mistakes altogether, but we reduce the chances of mistakes to a minimum. We have a provision by which the Council may correct mistakes which had not been taken to the Court of Revision.

It is plain from what had appeared during the past few days that it is the intention and fixed plan of the managers of the Opposition throughout the Province to endeavor to make political capital for themselves out of the religious sympathies of the Protestant population, and out of the religious antagonism aroused between Roman Catholics and Protestants. He hoped they would fail in these unholy tactics. "For myself," said the Attorney-General in conclusion, "and for the Protestant members of the Government, I will say that we are attached with all our hearts to the Protestant churches to which we respectively belong; but we recognise it as our duty to be fair to the Roman Catholic minority according to our light. We have examined the school question as Protestants, as we fully recognised it to be our duty to do, and we are satisfied in regard to all the Bills of the Opposition—that they would be of no service to the Province; that they are bad Bills—(applause); and as a Protestant myself of nearly 70 years, I have no hesitation in advising the House to reject these bills, and to pass the Bill of the Minister of Education.

The Attorney-General resumed his seat amid the hearty applause of the House.