

abundantly dealt on the Legislature. The truth was, that there had been a great deal of legislating on the subject, extending back to the 41st of George III., which attempted the foundation of a *Royal Institution*, but was productive of no effect. Since then, several acts had been passed, in 1814, 1818, and lastly, in 1823, which last was of great importance, and must have produced the most beneficial results. Its effect was to divide the country into (school) districts; and so important was it considered, that it had been extended by subsequent statutes down to the 2d of William IV., C. 26, which existed up to the time of the suspension of the constitution: since when no provision for the maintenance of schools had been made."

On the matter being formally taken up in the Upper House, the Hon. Mr. Morris took an opportunity of deprecating in strong terms any thing like hasty legislation on so very important a subject, followed up by submitting a series of resolutions, proposing that, instead of hurrying the Bill through that Session, at the risk of the adoption of a defective exceptionable measure, a Parliamentary commission should be appointed, to remain after the adjournment, composed of members of both Houses, with a clergyman and layman of the leading denominations of Christians, for the purpose of maturing and preparing a well digested system for the better education of the youth of the Province in endowed Common and Grammar Schools—as Seminaries preparatory of pupils for any University that might hereafter be established. And on the Bill being at length suddenly laid before the House by the Select Committee appointed to report upon it, he again spoke strongly on the subject, and was heartily joined by the Hon. Mr. De Blaquiére, in earnest protestations against the inconsiderate manner in which so important, yet imperfect a measure, was hurried through Parliament, on the very eve of a prorogation; though they both declined opposing the passing of the Bill, lest the country should thereby be altogether deprived of the

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