

HON. MR. MOWAT'S
SPEECH
IN THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,
MARCH 25th. 1890,
ON THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE
SEPARATE SCHOOL ACT.

The following is a report of the Attorney-General's speech in the Legislative Assembly, March 25th, 1890, on the amendments proposed to the Separate School Act:

The Attorney-General began by alluding to the extreme delicacy of the question that was under consideration. It related to matters on which Roman Catholics and Protestants both felt greatly interested, and on which their sympathies did not run together. The members of this House belonged very largely to one of these two denominations. In this House of ninety members there were but eight Roman Catholics—all the other members were Protestants. It was the more necessary, on this account, that when matters of interest on which Protestants and Roman Catholics were divided in their sympathies came to be considered, they should be considered with the greatest possible care, in order that the members of the House might not mislead themselves as to the proper course to take.

Almost every speech that had been made on the other side of the House was an appeal to the Protestant sentiment of the country, and to the anti-Roman Catholic sentiment of the country. The hon. member for London had in his speech disclaimed some things as to which he was not followed by other members of his side of the House. As regards these, he is a leader who does not lead. Thus, he had disclaimed any intention of