

assessments for Public School purposes) according to the average attendance at the respective schools; and the trustees of Separate Schools had "power to impose, levy, and collect school rates or subscriptions upon and from persons sending children to or subscribing towards the support of such schools, and . . . all the powers in respect to Separate Schools that the trustees of Public Schools have," &c.

In a conversation which I recently had with an ardent Protestant, an objection was made to the two inspectors of Separate Schools being paid out of the Provincial Treasury; and I may refer here to this objection. By the law as it stood at the time of Confederation, these schools were subject to such inspection as the Chief Superintendent (now the Minister of Education) should direct, and the Government inspection of these schools was by the paid officers of the Province. The duty was then performed by the High School Inspectors. The duties of these inspectors having increased from year to year, and having become at length too great to be performed, the Minister of Education found it necessary to transfer the inspection of Separate Schools to distinct officers. Two Separate School Inspectors were therefore provided for, to be appointed by the Government, and paid in the same manner as High School Inspectors. The salaries and expenses of the two Separate School Inspectors amount together to about \$4,000. Now there are fifty-eight County Public School Inspectors; they are appointed by the County Councils; and one-half of their salaries is paid by the Province, making in all \$30,096. More than that amount is paid in addition out of county rates to which the supporters of Separate Schools contribute. As we have Separate Schools, it is in the general interest that they should be subject to Government inspection; and thoughtful Protestants will feel that the cost is nothing as compared with the advantage.

My attention has been called to the following statement in a recent number of a Conservative newspaper, and I am told that a like statement has been made in other journals of the same party:—"One thing we know is sought, that the law shall compel every Catholic living in a Separate School district to pay his school tax to the Separate School Trustees whether he will or not." If this is so, the gentlemen who make the announcement must be in the confidence of the Roman Catholic clergy in a way that I am not. No such desire has ever been hinted to myself; nor to my colleagues, as they inform me. But the story, I have no doubt, is a mere invention. •

GOVERNMENT PATRONAGE.

Again, some have the notion that Roman Catholics get more