

deemed necessary should be made only with the concurrence of the inspector and trustees. *In French and German Schools the authorized Readers should be used in addition to any text books in either of the languages aforesaid.*"

His hon. friend had said so many censorious things that one would have thought he had been living upon sour grapes during his absence last summer from Canada. He had nothing but bitter words for the government, the Attorney-General, and for himself (Mr. Ross). He was not magnanimous enough to spend one moment in paying him a single compliment for making English compulsory in all the schools of Ontario. Why this want of generosity; surely it cannot be necessary for purely party purposes to be ungenerous towards an opponent. What is the hon. gentleman to gain by declining to recognize what the country knows to be the case, what every member of this House knows to be the fact, that he (Mr. Ross) was the first to make the study of English in every school the unmistakable policy of the Education Department. In the face of such conduct on the part of the hon. gentleman, he must not be surprised if he is told he is not the exponent of a broad policy, but is the representative of partizanship and intolerance in its most contemptible form. The hon. gentleman says that the regulations of the Education Department are inoperative, are disregarded and would be disregarded in the future. What justification has he for the statement? Does not the correspondence before the House show that the number of schools in which English was not taught is steadily decreasing since 1885, the date of the regulations? that while in 1887 there were 27 departments in which no English was taught, in 1888 there were only 6, and in 1889 English was taught in every school. What did the Commissioners say on this point? After having visited every school in which French was taught in Prescott and Russell, they say:—

- I. That some English is taught in every school.
- II. That the Ontario Readers have been introduced into every school.
- III. That the pupils are usually well supplied with English reading books.
- IV. That in at least twelve schools the work done in English is much beyond the amount prescribed.
- V. That in 24 schools more time is given to English than that prescribed in the circular; in 6 the time prescribed is given, and in 23 less than the time prescribed is given.
- VI. That in very few schools has sufficient attention been given to colloquial exercises.

MISTATEMENT CORRECTED.

The hon. gentleman argues on the assumption that he (Mr. Ross) had said that every pupil was learning English and learn-