

APPENDIX I.

The Separate School System.

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The subject on which I am privileged to address this learned assembly, is one of the most important that can possibly engage our attention—"Separate Schools"—by which I understand schools instituted and supported by a Church in order that the doctrines of that Church, pure and unadulterated, may be supplied to her children; that secular education may be seasoned and sanctified by religion; that the vine of secular knowledge, which is of the earth earthy, prone, if left to itself, to creep along the ground, being planted near the tree of truth, may take hold of its strength in a loving embrace—may lift its head to heaven, and, by favour of the light and sun, produce angel's food.

My lord, I think we are all agreed in this, that education is a good thing. I can picture a country ruled over by a despotic King, controlling the press, and allowing nothing immoral or infidel to see the light, in which even *secular education* would prove an unmixed good; but in a country like ours, where the press is free, even to licentiousness, it is oftentimes and to many a dangerous thing to pluck the fruit that grows on the tree of knowledge. It is true the eyes of the understanding are opened; they may take the Bible in their hands, and, under the guidance of the Spirit of Truth, drink deeply from the well of life and live for ever; or following the leadings of a corrupt nature, they may peruse the pages of some gifted fellow mortal who has painted sin in bright and beautiful colours, till they become enamoured of its beauty and wake not from their dream till the grim tyrant death lays his cold hand on them.

My Lord, it may be just and right in the state to compel