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No. 303.

4th Session, 3rd Parliament, 14 & 15 Vict., 1851.

BILL.

An Act to amend the nineteenth Section of the Act 13 & 14 Vict., for the better establishment of Schools in Upper Canada.

Received and read a first time, Thursday, 14th August, 1851.

Second reading, Monday, 18th August, 1851.

Mr. MACKENZIE.

TORONTO: PRINTED BY LOVELL AND GIBSON.

BILL.

An Act to repeal the nineteenth Section of the Act for the better establishment of Common Schools in Upper Canada.

WHEREAS the establishment of Sectarian or separate public Schools, upheld by periodical grants of money from the Provincial Treasury, and placed under the control of the Executive Government, through its Superintendents of Education and other civil officers, is a dangerous interference with the Common School system of Upper Canada, and if allowed to Protestants and Roman Catholics, cannot reasonably be refused to Episcopalians, Presbyterians, Quakers, Tunkers, Baptists, Independents, and other religious denominations; and whereas if it is just that any number of religious sects should have separate Public Schools, it is not less reasonable that they should also have separate Grammar Schools, Colleges, and Professorships in the Universities; and whereas it is unjust in the State to tax Protestants in order to provide for the instruction of children in Roman Catholic doctrines, or to tax Roman Catholics for the religious education of youth in principles adverse to those of the Church of Rome, and the early separation of children at school on account of the creeds of their parents or guardians, would rear nurseries of strife and dissension, and cause thousands to grow up in comparative ignorance, who might, under our Common School system, obtain the advantages of a moral, intellectual, literary and scientific education: and whereas the repeal of the nineteenth Section of the Upper Canada Common School Act, passed in 1850, would discourage sectarian education, and be productive of peace, harmony, and good will in neighbourhoods: Be it therefore enacted, &c.,

That the nineteenth Section of an Act passed by the Parliament of this Province, in the Session thereof held in the 13th and 14th years of Her Majesty's Reign, and intituled, "*An Act for the better establishment and maintenance of Common Schools in Upper Canada,*" be, and the same is hereby repealed.

Sect. 19 of
13 and 14
Vict. c. 48,
repealed.