

quarter, and which, without rising to nearly as high an oratorical level as the hon. Commissioner has frequently attained, was profuse in argument and fact. He first pointed out that Mr. Craig, in moving the resolution now being discussed, had anticipated the character of the discussion that was likely to ensue, even while he repudiated a desire to do as he knew he would do. He did not desire in what he might say himself to arouse any strong feelings whatever, but he would confess that it was to him a very strange thing that the present occasion was the first

calculated to promote the harmony of the Dominion. Mr. Fraser then alluded to the matter of L'Original schools. He charged Mr. H. E. Clarke with giving a wrong account of the position of affairs in that place. For fifteen years before 1887 there was no Separate school in that village at all. During that time the school was managed by Protestant school trustees. (Cheers.) He quoted from the report of the inspector to show that these trustees, when they advertised for teachers, stipulated that they must speak French and English, not that they must be Roman Catholics. If hon. gentlemen opposite proposed to abolish Separate schools, they should show to the people that there was something had in them to merit that fate. If the Opposition went to the country with a policy to do away with Separate schools they would soon see the folly of that course. Again, as to the catechism alluded to by Mr. Craig. The facts justified the statements already made on the floor of the House, that the book was used during the time prescribed for religious purposes. There was not a single Protestant child endangered by anything taught from the book. It was not taught during the hours set apart by the department for imparting secular instruction, and if the House were to throw aside their partisanship nothing objectionable could be offered against its use as it was used in L'Original. There was a Protestant Separate school at L'Original, moreover, at which the children of all the Protestant residents attended. Mr. Fraser concluded by asking that the House deal as fairly with the Roman Catholic majority in the Public school at L'Original as with the thousands of cases all over the Province elsewhere in which the Protestants had full control of the Public school. Roman Catholics, he contended, were absolutely shut out from positions in connection with these, he argued, and yet they had not complained.

Mr. French rose shortly after ten o'clock to address the House, prefacing his remarks by denying that the member for east Durham uttered any discourteous remarks against the French in Quebec. There was a wrong that should be righted, and so far as he knew the Opposition aimed at nothing else. It was strange the Minister of Education did not become aware of the condition of the French schools until lately. Mr. French described how it was necessary for Judge Oliver in Eastern Ontario to address the jury in French to make himself intelligible, with a view to show how the French language is making encroachments on the dominant tongue. If Ontario was to remain a British Province it was necessary that the Government should take a more decided step than merely issuing a mandate providing for the teaching of English in the Public schools of the Province.

Mr. G. B. Smith did not think the result of the debate would be very satisfactory to the Opposition. He concluded by saying that members of his side of the House did not raise the question of race and religion discussed during the debate.

The debate was then concluded at 11 p.m., the motion of Mr. Craig being allowed to carry.