

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE EDUCATIONAL OUTLOOK  
AND THE "SCHOOL JOURNAL."

THOSE who desire the growth of a sound public sentiment in respect to the management of our educational affairs would, we apprehend, have no difficulty in rightly estimating the motive which prompted our criticism of last month on "Our Educational Executive," or in endorsing much, if not all, of what we had then to say. Were we in doubt in this matter, the letters of approval we have received, and the assurances of agreement which have been orally addressed to us by many thoughtful men in the profession, in regard to the judgments expressed in the article in question, would readily satisfy us that our conclusions were correct. As an independent journal, and giving expression to independent opinions, it was not to be expected, however, that our criticisms would please every one. Those, it seems, we have *not* pleased are the publishers of the *School Journal*, for in the current number, in an article curiously entitled "Trade Organism (*sic*) and Political Partisanship," the MONTHLY is held up to simulated opprobrium, and its editor treated to a clumsy "slogging," for leading, as it is asserted, "a political crusade" and making "a party football" of our educational system—accusations which are as ludicrously absurd as they are feeble and false.

The *School Journal's* motive, in making these assertions, is of course on the surface. It is not, by any means, to defend the Minister of Education that our contemporary has again brought the MONTHLY to the notice of its readers. So far from doing this, it has but given increased publicity to our criticisms, and, in its generous selection of the plums in our article, has added to the number of those who will learn of our estimate

of Mr. Crooks, and of the judgment we had passed upon his administration. The motive of its attack upon us is simply one of jealousy, and the desire to discredit us in the duty we were performing, of calling the attention of the profession to the danger which threatens our school system from the increasing demoralization of politics, and their malign influence upon our educational affairs. Whatever the *School Journal* may say, this is an evil which every close and dispassionate observer of the recent working of our educational machinery is loud in decrying. So grave is the danger, and so menacing is it to the interests of education in the Province, that it formed the subject of a timely and pointed reference in two of the addresses delivered at the late Provincial Teachers' Convention, which we publish elsewhere in the present number.

But our contemporary tells its readers that we were actuated by partisan motives in dealing with this matter in our last issue; that our criticisms upon our present educational administration were due "to a deliberate intention to secure a change of Departmental management by a change of Government;" and that it is the boast of the conductors of the MONTHLY that its judgments "indicate the line of attack on the Government, and form one of the first elements (whatever that may mean) in the coming campaign." Now, our reply to so much as we understand of the above indictment is this, that it is wholly and maliciously untrue. We have had no thought of upsetting the Government of the Province, of conducting any crusade against it, or of importing into our educational affairs any political feeling, or of writing against its head with partisan acerbity. Our aim, on the contrary, has been to keep these influences, and the prejudices which they engender, at a long arm's length from educa-