

Education, I hope that this will be the case. In education as in irrigation, we must proceed from the higher levels and work downwards. "The higher instruction," says Ernest Renan, "is the source of primary instruction. The strength of popular instruction in Germany springs from the strength of superior education in that country. The University makes the School. It has been said that the primary school was the conqueror at Sadowa. Not so; the conqueror at Sadowa was German science, philosophy, Kant,*** Fichte, Hegel." This was written in 1868. The statement made in regard to Sadowa will, no doubt, be felt to be quite as applicable to Sedan.

The old learned professions may be over-stocked, but the Universities can never furnish too many students and teachers of the Natural and Applied Sciences. At the present moment the Railway and Geological surveys of Canada make demands for qualified assistants that cannot be met in our own country, while an intelligent acquaintance with the fascinating study of nature is far from being as general as it ought to be. Who does not sympathize with Thomas Carlyle when he laments that no one taught him "the grasses that grow by the wayside and the little winged and wingless neighbours that were constantly meeting and saluting him, which salutes," he says, "he cannot answer as things are." "Why," he continues, "did not somebody teach me the constellations too, and make me at home in the starry heavens, and which I do not half know to this day?" Who does not agree with the Rev. Dr. Ryerson, the able Chief Superintendent of Schools for Ontario, when he says "that every youth should be taught the names and characteristics of the vegetables and flowers and trees with which he daily meets; the insects and birds and animals of his country; the nature of its soil and minerals; the chemical and mechanical principles which enter into the construction and working of the implements of husbandry; the machinery of mills, manufactures and mines; the production and preparation of the clothes we wear, the food we eat, beverages we drink, the air we breathe; together with the organs of our bodies, the faculties of our minds and the rules of our conduct?"

It would be a noble work if the University could send down teachers to the Schools to assist in imparting such teaching, much of which would be the delight of boys and girls. To my mind, one of the noblest works that the Alumni Association could engage in would be to aid in promoting such studies. The fly on the cathedral's dome cannot be expected to admire the work even of a Michael Angelo. The blind man cannot perceive the majesty of a golden sun-set nor the deaf