

fine sentiment but not economy. The system is an anomaly and in its primary aspect not equitable. Of those who use the public schools three-fourths are just as well able to pay for the schooling of their children as for their bread and clothing, while the natural obligation is precisely the same. There is no more equity in calling upon the man with one child to provide the six children of his perhaps less prudent neighbour with education than there would be in calling upon him to feed and clothe them. The compensation for the unfairness is the political and social security which the system is supposed to assure to us by educating a class which might otherwise through ignorance misuse political power and perhaps grow up criminal. But is the assurance fulfilled? Are the children of the lowest and most dangerous class found in the schools? Do not the returns of the Minister of Education give us reason to suspect that a large portion of those children at all events is allowed to escape? A law of compulsory attendance carried thoroughly into effect is the complement of the public school system without which the system itself cannot be just. It is strange that people should kick so resolutely against public relief for the destitute, as leading to demoralization, while they acquiesce in a school system which is nothing more nor less than a system of public relief on the largest scale for the class which takes advantage of the schools.

—The Official Report of the Committee on the Middleton case which is now before us fully bears out the opinion which we had formed. Let it be borne in mind that the charge against the General was systematic looting or connivance at looting. The appropriation of Bremner's furs, according to the indictment brought by Mr. Lister, was not an isolated transaction but part of a series comprising, besides the Bremner case, the appropriation of furs by the General, the appropriation by him of horses, and the appropriation by Mr. S. L. Bedson, with the General's connivance, of a pool-table and horses taken from