

tent with a knowledge of tactics. He must go forth to war." "He who would truly feel for the poor must not merely read about them. He must visit them."

In conformity with the author's general principle, our criticism has thus dealt largely in examples as giving the fairest idea of an eminently practical manual. In conclusion, however, it may be well to examine into the value of that general principle of imitation. Is it really the royal road to style? Does it not stifle originality? These two questions are fully answered in the author's introduction. An affirmative answer to the first is given in convincing quotations from Cardinal Newman, Buckle and more particularly from Robert Louis Stevenson, who also replies in the negative to the second question. From the article, "A College Magazine" in "Memories and Portraits" Mr. Donnelly borrows Stevenson's own words: "Perhaps I hear some one cry out, But this is not the way to become original! It is not, not is there any way but to be born so. Nor yet, if you are born original, is there anything in this training that shall clip the wings of your originality. There can be none more original than Montaigne, neither could any be more unlike Cicero, yet no craftsman can fail to see how much the one must have tried in his time to imitate the other. Burns is the very type of a prime force in letters; he was of all men the most imitative. Shakespeare himself, the imperial, proceeds directly from a school. It is only from a school that we can expect to have good writers; it is almost invariably from a school that great writers, these lawless exceptions, arise."

This admirable and unique manual, which costs only 60 cents, was adopted, very soon after its publication, by many prominent colleges, academies and schools.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

It is not difficult to understand the attitude of the Free Press on the present development of the School question. This journal, and all others like it, which exist simply and solely for the purpose of furthering the ends and feathering the nests of party politicians, may their rights, and with loyal confidence that British fair play and British justice will ultimately prevail even in a question where the taxation of Catholics is concerned, they are determined now to press for complete vindication of their position and the relief to which they are entitled under the Privy Council decision. Catholics are perfectly indifferent as to whether the Grits or the Tories like it or not—they are prepared to accept their rights from either party—and there is at last good reason to hope that party interests may at no very distant date lead the politicians to see they can no longer play with this great and serious question as they have in the past.

On Monday last the Free Press quoted from a speech made by the late lamented Dalton McCarthy, in which that Protestant agitator held that the Dominion Government had jurisdiction only if the Provincial Government declined to act. Well, this is the very case which now confronts the minority. Premier Roblin says he cannot do anything, that his hands are tied by a previous agreement between the Dominion and Local Governments, and whether this is absurd (as the Free Press characterizes it) or not, the fact remains that the Catholics have received a decisive answer from the Manitoba Premier, and it follows that they are now face to face with the very position contemplated by Dalton McCarthy. Turned down by the school board, unable to get anything from the Local Government, they now naturally and legally look to the higher authority at Ottawa. In every action that the Catholics have taken in this school trouble, they have acted in a thoroughly constitutional manner, and never more so than in their present procedure.

The Protestants of the city are proud of their public school buildings. They have very little reason for this feeling, for the fact is that during the past thirteen years, the Catholics of Winnipeg have been forced to contribute no less a sum

than one hundred and fifty thousand dollars—perhaps more—to the promotion of Protestant education in the city and to the construction of the Protestant public schools. This statement ought to bring a blush of shame to the cheeks of even the most hardened and intolerant bigot. Just fancy, the brutal persecution such a fact reveals. In a measure it may with truth be said, that hardly anything worse could be found in the chronicles of Russia, and one would have to go back to the dark days in the history of persecuted Catholic Ireland, to find a parallel. Talk about a free country—Manitoba in this matter is a blot on the boasted civilization of the twentieth century, and all the false pleading and hypocrisy of the party hacks who write for the political press, and who pander to the bigotry of their narrow-minded readers will not alter the fact, that the Province is in this respect a disgrace to the British Empire.

For seven long years the Catholics have waited for some tangible result of the so-called settlement of 1896. They realize now that patience in their case has ceased to be a virtue, and face to face with tremendous additional taxation owing to the increased school population and the necessity of new buildings for their children, they have wisely determined to once more approach the powers that be, and it may safely be said that before they are through, there will be very few people in Canada who will not at least know that the school question is not settled. The Catholic population in this western country is growing wonderfully, we are far more than holding our own in the increase caused by incoming immigration, and it will not be many years before the Catholic vote will be a much more important factor in the west than it is to-day. We commend this to the earnest consideration of the politicians. Justice and fair play may not move them, but the time may be at hand for some of them when they will realize that they have committed what to their mind is the greatest of all blunders, namely a political mistake.

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### CATHOLICS INTERVIEW THE HON. MR. ROBLIN.

Free Press, June 29.

The deputation from the Catholic school supporters of the city, appointed to interview the provincial government, waited on Premier Roblin, Hon. R. Rogers being also present, on Saturday, at 3 p.m. The committee consisted of Mr. T. D. Deegan, chairman; Mr. F. W. Russell, secretary; Mr. W. Jordan and Mr. M. McManus. Mr. Russell read the resolution, passed at a mass meeting of Catholics recently held, presenting their statement of the case as follows:—

To Hon. R. P. Roblin, Premier of Manitoba. Sir,—We have the honor to submit herewith copy of a resolution passed at a mass meeting of Catholics held in this city a few days ago:

"Whereas, the Lords of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council of the British Empire, in a judgment delivered on the 28th of January, A.D., 1895, declared that a right or privilege which the Roman Catholic minority previously enjoyed had been affected by the Manitoba legislation of 1890; and

"Whereas, acting upon that decision of the Privy Council, the Governments of the Dominion of Canada and of the Province of Manitoba, by arrangement, have enacted certain amendments to the School Law of 1890 (generally known as the Laurier-Greenway Manitoba School Settlement), purporting to redress the grievance of the said Roman Catholic minority of Manitoba; and

"Whereas, the said agreement effected between the Federal authorities of Ottawa and the Provincial Government of Winnipeg has been

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