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The Coronto World.

TUESDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 31, 1882,

THE BIBLE IN SCHOOLS. The members of the deputation which waited on Mr. Mowat a few days ago, to ask that reading the bible be made compulsory in all schools, whether intentionally or not, made a very unfair presentation of the case and used some curious arguments. Their statement of the matter as a whole we propose to examine more fully again, contenting ourselves for the present with a brief dissection of some of the arguments.

One of the most reasonable of the speakers was Mr. McMullen, the chairman of the gross joint delegation, and yet he fell into the fallacy of assuming that those who do not want bible-reading made obligatory are not in favor of a system of education based on sound morality-as if sound morality, even the morality of the new testament, could not be taught without using the bible itself as a text-book. Mr. Mc-Mullen knows very well that while no one objects to the ethics of the new testament as unsound, there is not the same consensus about the moral teaching of parts of the old testament, and he knows also that while Roman catholics are quite willing to have their children taught new testament morality they are not willing to protestant clerics willing to concede in Onbible may choose between the authorized Roman cathol been placed? Do these agitators know that there are more Roman catholic public school teachers than there are separate school teachers altogether, and that the of breaking down the partition wall of bigotry so that separate schools may eventually disappear altogether.

Mr. Williams, one of the delegates, repeated Mr. McMullen's fallacy when he in sisted on making education moral as well as intellectual. So says everybody else. The question is how that can best be done under existing conditions, one of which is the necessity of maintaining harmony amongst the various classes who have a right to send their children to our public made all round without a bible being ever seen inside of a school house, if the spirit and teaching of the gospels be observed in theory and practice. We are equally of opinion that to force a bible itself on the schools would lead in many localities to discord and heartburnings where there has been for years nothing but peace and har-

But of all the fallacies enunciated by the delegates the worst and the least excusable with patience and forbearance of a man those who differ with himself, not on a point of morality, but on a point of expediency, are abbettors of Ingersoll's creed. Is there no difference between a man who denies a future existence and one who has too much reverence for the scriptures to see them made an ordinary reading book in schools. In one respect Ingersolt has a decided advantage over the clerical delegates; he would not put what is essentially improper reading matter in the hands of a class of children, while they are quite willing to do so provided the matter is found in the bible. Those who lament the falling off in the use of the bible in schools should remember that years ago boys and girls in class were frequently asked to read passages from the bible that are utterly unfit to be read aloud in any circle, whether it be school or fam-

his statement that the Roman catholice to the metropolicits vast supplies of the laye no right to complain at the obligatory lacted fluid. During the three months use of the protestant bible in public schools ending with September over five thousand because they have their own separate individual inspections were made, resulting schools. No one knows better than Dr. Ceclrane that this statement is untrue in the sense in which it must be understood if his argument is to have any force. He knows that in many localities of this province the Roman catholics never had separate echools, and that in others they have long ago abandoned them. If he could nich himself for a little of his clerical prejudices he would admit that it is desirable to have all classes get the people united in educational matters. He would grant at once that in places where there is only one school for all, and where catholics are more numerous than protestants, the Doursy bible should be used. If he does not know that such districts are to be found then he has yet to learn some important facts bearing on the solution of this problem, which, to the clerical mind, seems so easy.

This mistake about the relation of Boman catholics to reparate schools befogged the mind of the whole deputation. The fact that some Roman catholics in that locality support is or patronise it. In Toronto, there are separate schools and yet there are separate achools and yet there are separate catholics and the dangerous school is in a distinct choice children attending the public or organization. The same of important facts bearing on the selection of the problem, which, to the clerical mind, seems so easy.

This mistake about the relation of Boman catholics in that locality support is or patronise it. In Toronto, there are separate achools and yet there are separate achools and yet there are separate achools and yet there are many Roman catholic children attending the public more are separate achools and yet there are many Roman catholic children attending the public more are separate achools and yet there are separat

catholic children attending the public schools. The privilege allowed the Roman catholics by the law does not cancel the legal status of those who do not choose to avail themselves of it. This loop-hole is too small for the clerical casuists to creep though. Under whatever other pleas they seek refuge they must make up their minds that legally the Roman catholic supporcers of public schools have the same rights as their protestant fellow-citizens, and that morally and socially they are entitled to the same consideration.

CAPTURE OF THE "NICKLE PLATE" RAIL-ROAD.

The latest railway event of importance over the border is the disappearance of the nickle plate line as an independent road. Its proper designation was the New York, Chicago and St. Louis railroad, but some enthusiastic friend of the undertaking named it the "nickel plate" line, thereby conveying the idea that it was intended to be something better than other iron roads. As an independent concern its career has York despatch says that on Thursday

last enough stock of the company to secure the control was bought by J. H. Devereux and Stevenson Burke, Cleveland, who acted for a syndicate of western railroad men interested largely in the Columbus, Hocking Valley, Toledo and Cleveland. Columbus, Cincinnati and Indianapolis rail roads. The whole capital is \$50,000,000, if which \$22,000,000 is preferred. The

not yet publicly known. On this point a Buffalo despatch says: "One of the nickel plate officials in this city stated to a reporter place in their hands any but their own ver- that he thought the sale of that road was sion of the sacred text. Are these restless | 4 big stock-jobbing operation and expected to hear of its being sold again. If Mr. tario what has been conceded to the Roman Devereux has purchased the stock, it is in catholics in New Brunswick-that the the interest of Mr. Vanderbilt. A promiteacher who is to be compelled to use some nent railroad man of this city, who is intimate at the headquarters of the nickelprotestant and the Douay versions? It plate, stred that Judge Burke is the man not, what is to be done in public schools, who manipulated the Ohio railroad deal in the interest of Mr. Vanderbilt, and is a ne minent representative of the Standard oil co. It was he who assisted Mr. Vanderbilt to secure control of the Hocking Valley coal lands in Ohio. It is his opinion that number of the former is steadily increasing? | if Mr. Vanderbilt is not the party for whom And the verdict of the laity will be in favor | the road is bought then it is the Standard oil company, The company, of course, will not come out openly in the operation of the road, but will put their men in con-

trol of it." This is the way ?in which railways which threaten bona fide competition are gobbled up. It is now said in some quarters that the gobbling up of the nickelplate line was an event intended from the beginning of the enterprise, it having been built by a syndicate for the express purpose of compelling parties heavily interested to schools. In our opinion education can be buy the syndiaate out at a big profit to the latter. To establish and perpetuate competition among through sailway lines and osean cables appears to be no easy matter.

> IT WILL now be in order for the government authorities to hunt up the responsible parties referred to in the verdict re the Asia disaster, and indict them for manslaughter.

THE Montreal Post suggests that a monument be erected to D'Arcy McGee, the was Dr. Cochrane's reference to the effect statesman and martyr of confederation of lugersoll's teaching. It is hard to speak days. The proposal is a good one. There who in a serious argument assumes that ate the memory of him and of the other dis-

Independent says that "the general feeling of sympathy for the felon, as shown by wanted.

in any circle, whether it be school or family. There are passages in the bible which Dr. Cochrane would not read out of the pulpit or at his own family altar, and yet he asks that a book containing such passages shall be forced on the schools by law.

NEW YORE has a summary mode of suppressing the adulterated milk business. The approaches to the city are well guarded by efficient corps of sub-inspectors, who are on duty every morning before 4 o'clock to in-

schools. No one knows better than Dr. in the seizure and spilling of nine thousand Cccl.rane that this statement is untrue in five hundred and sixty quarts of impure

ment why their sale should be regulated.

THE remarkable statement is made that the amalgamation of the Grand Trunk and Great Western railways has already resulted in advancing the market value of the combined property by not less than fourteen millions sterling. It is now proposed by the shareholders to get up a testimonial to Mr. William Abbott, the London financier, who was chiefly instrumental in effecting the fusion.

MUSKOKA yesterday renewed her allegiance to the local government by electing a reformer as successor to Mr. Miller by handsome majority. The sturdy settlers up there don't appear to have caught unto the tory wail that " Mowat must go."

THE London Advertiser favors the appointment of provincial judges by the provincial executive. The local government are upon the ground. They know the temperature of the political atmosphere, and they will prove themselves much more susceptible to public opinion. The members come to a quick and untimely end. A New of the local ministry must be better acquainted with the members of the provincial bar, their attainments and general fitness for judicial duties.

ENFORCING BIBLICAL TEACHING

(To The Editor of The World.) SIR: There are some who will read with mingled sorrow and amazement the reported addresses made by the deputation which waited upon the premier to advocate the orice agreed upon to be paid is 37 for preferred and 17 for common stock. Vanderbilt devies the report that he is interested in the purchase. It is generally believed the Seney pool has made from seven to ten millions by building and selling the road.

Who the new owners of the road are is the preferred and 17 for common stock. Vanderbilt devices the report that he is interested in the purchase. It is generally believed the Seney pool has made from seven to ten millions by building and selling the road.

Who the new owners of the road are is education of the youth of the country "are education of the youth of youth of the youth of y upon the bible should form part of the education of the youth of the country" are the words used in one of these resolutions. It is almost disheartening to see the legitimate descendants of those various sects whose founders boldly undertook the stringgle for freedom of opinion and conduct on religious matters, now advocating that very mental and religious oppression whose extinction is the cause of their being. After struggling for and attaining the entire separation of church and state in religious matters, are we now to retrace our stem. ters, are we now to retrace our steps and seek to impose certain religious observances by the law of the land? Such re-rogression is against the interests of true religion, hurtful to the influence and totally contrary to constitutional law. A test case may be made of it if such a law is enacted. Some, possibly many, teachers would resign rather than comply with it; and it is more than doubtful if the depr and it is more than doubtful if the deputa-tion of clergy and ministers would find their congregations so whilly at one with them as they at present imply. The wish has probably been father to the thought, heastily expressed without due enquiry. It is quite as consistent with the principles of freedom to compel every man to attend church where the bible is read, on the plea that in the opinion of the majority it is that in the opinion of the majority it is good for his morals, as to insist that every child shall hear it read in that public school child shall hear it read in that public school which in many cases he must attend if he is to get any secular education at all. It is the function of the state to maintain equal freedom, and if naught else will restrain, to punish or deprive of freedom those who use their freedom only to infringe the like liberty of others. It is not the business of the state to become itself a criminal in this respect by infringing thus a mental freedom which does not hinder or seek to lessen a similar mental freedom in others.

a similar mental freedom in other Possibly as a sequence to such remarks the writer may be thought insincers in adding that to himself the bible is the divine word, the very law and the very light of life. To read it, to study it daily can injure no one, man or boy, woman or girl, so long as it is read in freedom. To be compelled to read it or to hear it read in the compelled to read it or to hear it read in the compelled to read it or to hear it read in the compelled to read it or to hear it read in the compelled to read it or to hear it read in the compelled to read it or to hear it read in the compelled to read it or to hear it read in the compelled to read it or to hear it read in the compelled to read it or to hear it read in the compelled to read it or to hear it read in the compelled to read it or to hear it read in the compelled to read it or to hear it read in the compelled to read it or to hear it read in the compelled to read it. compelled to read it or to hear it read, is an outrage to freedom and a serious injury to the spread of truth. A man or a lad may compel himself to read or study that or any statesman and martyr of confederation days. The proposal is a good one. There is marble enough in the country to perpetuate the memory of him and of the other distinguished men that have been named.

President Arthur is in New York dabbling in state politics. The papers have given him a hint that he would be serving his country better at Washington but he don't seem to take it. In this respect he resembles the premier of Cauada.

Reference of the many petitions in behalf of condemned criminals that one proposed from without. But for another to compel him at once raises enmity within him towards the book he is forced to study. It is not urged here that compulsory education is not a necessity as society is at present constructed. Like the existing the premited in order to avoid a greater. Compulsory secular education is also a permitted and a necessary evil—an evil of which we shall yet learn to be ashamed. It matters little that our

REFERRING to some of the many petitions in behalf of condemned criminals that are flooding the country the Bobcaygeon to despise and abhor the multiplication table; to view with disgust from sad mem-ories of pain, the nuch-abused but truly poetic "Marmion;" but it is a serious matter, these petitions, is a bad phase in our social system." Our northern co tem is right. The criminal is very often regarded as a martyr and receives far too much consideration. More sympathy for the aggrieved is machinery of churches and Sunday schools

heart and life.

An old writer says: "No one is reformed (inwardly) by threats and punishments, because they force; no one is reformed (inwardly) when in a state of non-rationality and non-liberty." The Lord does not force His divine word upon us. Shall we then cease to follow Him and enforce it upon others? Is it christian to do so?



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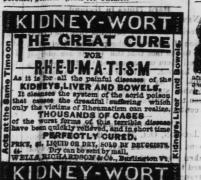
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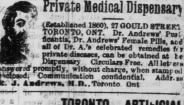
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