

THE CANADA
EDUCATIONAL MONTHLY
AND SCHOOL MAGAZINE.

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER, 1891.

THE N. E. A. OF THE U. S. A., 1891.*

PRINCIPAL GRANT'S WELCOME—DR. HARRIS' REPLY.

"STANDING here to speak for Canada, and regarding you as the representatives of the United States, the solemnity of the occasion should, I suppose, oppress me; but, to be frank, with you my feelings are rather those that belong to good fellowship than to solemnity. You are here for a holiday as much as for anything else, and when cousins meet—for are we not cousins, yes, more than cousins, 'we are a' John Tamson's bairns'—when cousins meet to have a picnic together, they are supposed to be in the mood for laughter and not for long faces.

"It is my duty, however, to tell you that Canada is a very big country. The people of Toronto would doubtless like you to believe that this city is the whole or the larger half of Canada, for Toronto has a fair share of that healthy localism that distinguishes almost every place of any account on this continent. I have

never been in a city in America where I was not shown something which hospitable friends assured me was the finest thing of the kind in the world, and so they put this city first after the manner in which Mr. Slick proved to the judge the supreme greatness of the Slick family." The speaker here told the well-known story, and convulsed his hearers. "You must make allowance for the pardonable pride, for even the Apostle Paul had it, and remember that you have not seen Canada until you have visited other great cities, of which you have heard as little as you heard previously to this convention of Toronto, such, as Penetanguishene, Magog, Miramichi, etc. Big as Canada is, you must not expect too much, for we are only a baby nation after all. People tell us, too, that we are not a nation at all, but only a Dominion. However, we are practical persons, and for these the one word means pretty much the same thing as the other. We have the rights and privileges of a nation, except the privilege of paying a share of the imperial expenses

*From the many addresses of welcome and reply, we take those of Principal Grant and Dr. Harris as characteristic of the whole.