

Toronto, but we notice that at the Nashville meeting, held in July last, it was decided to hold the next convention at St. Paul, Minn. Though the saving clause is in the resolution "provided suitable arrangements can be made," Toronto is not to be visited by the "five thousand" for two years at least; and in view of this delay, and also in view of the fact that great gatherings, and concentrated organization among teachers, seem to be the order of the day in England and America, would it not be well for the teachers of Canada to have a national convention of their own, which could meet alternately once a year or less often, in one of our large cities. Our politicians are for ever telling us that if Canada is to become a nation there must be a drawing together of the social forces, just as there has been a drawing together of the commercial and political forces. Each province for itself in the matter of schools is a principle strictly laid down by the Confederation Act; but while the schools are in the hands of the several provincial governments, education is in the hands of the teachers. The meeting which was held a year ago in St. John, New Brunswick, was one that had to some extent in view the concentration of educational interests in the Maritime Provinces; but, however successful it was from a St. John standpoint, it has not led to any organized concentration on the part of the teachers of that part of the country; nor do we think that a preliminary convention of this kind, including all the teachers of Canada who cared to attend it, would lead to anything very practical. There would no doubt be the "over much talking" that there was at St. John, and the extending of acquaintanceships; but this is hardly what is required to lead to organization. It would be better if every provincial association, at present in existence in Canada, were to discuss the matter through their Executive Councils, and when the question has been fully ventilated, to send delegates to a preliminary convention—not numerically large—which could meet in some one of our cities to discuss details and prepare a constitution. We direct the attention of our educational contemporaries to the subject: in our opinion it is well worth discussing.