

although Owen College had been established successfully, he thought the multiplication of universities was likely to stop there. He found also the disposition to place the educational administration beyond the sphere of politics. He had great respect for our educational administrators, and the excellent Minister of Education we had in particular, but he believed the interests of our national education should above all be kept entirely clear of politics, and it appeared to him that public thought was tending in the direction of centralizing our university system there."

REV. DR. McVICAR AT QUEBEC.

The Reverend the Principal of the Presbyterian College of Montreal, on the 17th Oct., delivered an address at Quebec, before the Protestant Teachers' Association of the province, on "The Teacher in his Study and in the Class-room," from which we make the following extract. The Reverend gentleman was elected President of the Association at the meeting. He said :—

"It might be asked, Why speak of the teacher's work in his study? but he dwelt upon the importance of a teacher's thorough acquaintance with the science, for it is a science of teaching, the science of carrying out what should be a grand 'national policy' to 'elevate the standard' of honesty and morals amongst the people and thus to diminish the number of those who become first-class public frauds and robbers of our banks. Teachers should also study at home the various dispositions and surroundings of all their scholars, and should also prepare special illustrations of their lessons; the best illustrations, he contended, being those which appealed to the eye." Speaking of the teacher in his school-room, the lecturer dwelt upon the importance of avoiding the two evils of teaching too much or too little at a time. By two or three simple questions, the point of ignorance may be gauged, and there the work of teaching begins, while such a mode of procedure serves also to take conceit out of pupils. The question was often asked how attention was to be secured. The best pre-

scriptions were 'to secure the proper relations between teacher and pupil, to judiciously use the eyes, to remove the centres of inattention, to ask plenty of questions of the inattentive, to use copious illustrations, and to insist upon recapitulation. He enlarged upon the necessity of more mental culture amongst teachers, and pointed out the country's march in science, art, and literature, speaking of the necessity for higher national honour, truth and integrity, the only kind of 'national policy' which can secure true and lasting prosperity. The rev. doctor's peroration upon this head, is so especially *apropos* at the present time, that we publish it *in extenso*. His paper was concluded as follows :—"What we need now for still greater national strength and progress are certain things in the moral category. Shall I say a higher sense of honour among all classes, including our public men, and a supreme regard for truthfulness. It is easily seen that defects in these respects must touch and deteriorate our national life at every point, they will influence domestic relations and public transactions, affect our buying and selling in the entire trade or traffic of the country, they must taint our judicial processes and pervert the decisions of our courts; they will pervade our daily literature and render almost worthless and even pernicious the utterances of our press. And is it not a lamentable fact, as recently declared by a leading statesman, that in order to get an approximately correct view of the doings and utterances of any public man you must read the accounts given by the paper which favours him and the paper which opposes him, and even then, you may fail to reach the truth. Now, it is in the power of our schools and institutions of learning to brand with deserved infamy this detestable vice of lying and to stamp it out of existence by calling it by its right name and making it bear its proper burden of dishonour and disgrace, and by holding up before our youth a high standard of truthfulness and integrity. This is what is needed to purify our commerce and bring back business to a safe and healthy state, and the only sort of National Policy that can ensure permanent prosperity.