

by Dr. Nelles would render it unnecessary for him to deal with figures. He proceeded to consider the obligations which the Methodist Church of Canada was under to carry on the work of higher education. From the far off East to where the waters of the Pacific touched the Western shore they were now a united Church. The eloquent speaker took a consecutive glance at the territorial extent of the Provinces forming the Dominion, and compared them with European lands, the whole united making the Dominion a country of much greater area than the United States of America, which is capable of sustaining six hundred millions of immortal men. What a responsibility is here for the present and the future! The cause of education must be sustained, and the Church must provide an educated ministry to meet the necessity and demands of the times. In reading the report of Dr. Ryerson, Chief Superintendent of Education, he found that there were about 6,000 Government Educators in this Province, and it was computed that besides these there were 4,000 educators more engaged in the Universities, Ladies' Colleges and other institutions, making about 10,000 persons of more or less culture and refinement engaged in this important work. Then if those similarly employed in the other Provinces were added to this number there would be 20,000 persons engaged in the work of education—from the simple teacher of the lowest grade up to the learned professor who inculcated the principles of philosophy and disclosed the profound secrets of science, revealing the mysteries of nature to the mind. Dr. Douglas next referred to the spread of literature, and said that he had been astonished in travelling through the Ottawa valley and elsewhere to find where he did not expect them, the *Westminster* and other reviews and magazines. Taking everything into consideration, and after giving the subject some thought, he was of opinion that in the matter of education the Province of Ontario would compare favourably with any land beneath the sun. In the old world and in New England, in the Universities there were doubtless more prominent men, but taking the population man by man, Ontario was second to none of them. The study of theology was a different thing now from what it was even twenty years ago. There was not a fundamental question of their common Christianity that was not now confronted. New questions in science were constantly springing up. There were for instance the origin of life, the antiquity of man, the question whether there is anything but matter, whether the mind is more than matter. The personality of Christ and other doctrines were assailed. He asked the Church to be bold in meeting this state of affairs, and if it was to have men capable of dealing with the advanced questions of the day they must possess the best education possible for them to receive. He protested against putting incapable men into the pulpit, as it was neither justice to the church nor themselves. He, like the learned Principal of Victoria, who had preceded him, honoured the old men; but the necessities of this age were pressing. Their church pews were occupied by men of culture, and the pulpit must not be behind in the matter, and in connection with it we must take at least a stand of equality with other churches. In proportion to the culture of the ministers will be the character of the churches of the future. The 30,000 Methodists of Quebec had done liberally in providing for the establishment and endowment of a theological and other colleges, but there was yet much to be done.—*Kingston Chronicle and News*.

4. KINDERGARTEN IN SCHOOL.

Certain educators are recommending that Kindergarten departments be established in connection with our public-school system, and we most heartily approve the suggestion. As, however, many needed reforms get into operation very tardily, because of the lack of some one to take the initiative, we would remind our readers that every citizen or parent has a right to inform himself (or herself) on the Kindergarten system, to importune teachers and members of school committees, to interest their neighbours, to search for persons containing the mental qualifications necessary to Kindergarten teachers, and to assist in defraying the expense (which is not great) of the special education of such teachers. Where the public authorities will not move, a Kindergarten can be cheaply established by private enterprise.—*Union*.

For the Journal of Education.

5. TEACHERS' BOARDING IN TAVERNS.

As some teachers in towns and a few in the country board in taverns, it is sometimes asked, "What effect the places have on their moral habits?" My opinion is that, young teachers who have no desire for spirituous beverages and have made no resolution against them, are likely to give way; and that, for moderate men, a tav-

ern is the worst place. But I am sure that a man can board even there, without tasting; but he must be extremely weak in desire and extremely strong in resolve. I believe all men are, at first, weak in desire; but what they do desire is, to be thought manly, friendly, social and liberal. If, in the cases in which nature has omitted to confer these qualities, whiskey could make them permanent, I would make one grand experiment myself. Now, with regard to *manly*, I believe that in the whole scale of being, a drunken man has no moral similitude; by a single act of volition, he becomes neither man nor brute—we cannot classify him—he is unique in Nature. Thus, in his notion to be *social*, he becomes unfit for his own or any other species. And his ephemeral friendship commonly ends in hostility; and what do we care for that liberality that needs a pint of whiskey to unlock it? It is exceedingly desirable that teachers be able to cope with this chronic habit, and so far as my own observations extend, they are bravely doing so: I cannot name one drunken teacher, nor one that is even a "moderate" drinker. Thirty years ago I could have named a dozen; at that time the vocation was accessible as a *dernier resort* to many who had been unsuccessful in the business world, and as they wandered into teaching, of course brought their habits with them; but now, the qualifications are more peculiar to the calling, and we have fewer juicy exotics. If men of letters could be induced to stand off a quarter of a century, so that the habit could be charged only to ignorance, it would then become *unfashionable*, which few things can very long outlive.

Fergus P. O.

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II. Short Critical Notices of Books.

Claude Melnotte as a Detective. By Allan Pinkerton: Hunter, Rose & Co., Toronto.

The success attending the publication of his first tale: "The Expressman and the Detective," has induced Mr. Pinkerton, we presume, to publish this second story of his operations as a most successful detective in the United States. The "merit of strict truthfulness" which is claimed is a feature, without which the tales would be valueless, and its absence in any degree would reduce the great interest felt in reading them to a comfortable complaisance at any fate meted by a sensation novelist to his hero. The secret of Allan Pinkerton's great success seems to be his wonderful knowledge of men and the ease with which he reads their character. This is evidenced by his anticipation of what we may call his victim's movements, and the rapidity with which, having taken a glance at a man's acquaintances and haunts, he notes both the use that may be made of each, and his readiest plan of transferring their usefulness to his own sphere of operations. This power is surpassed, or perhaps rather extended, by an intuition which, aided by a view of the place and history of the crime committed, Melnotte is able to sketch in his mind a portrait of the criminal; and his thorough knowledge of every one in his employment enables him to put emphatically, "the right man in the right place." His contempt of "professional detectives," is not concealed, and perhaps is rather increased by a long experience of the incompetence which a large portion of such a class of men display; a class from which he could expect no assistance but rather embarrassment. The stories are told in a straightforward manner; the only weak part of the book being where the author gives us some imaginative pictures of what might have occurred after his "Prince" had retired into private life.

The appearance of the volume is most creditable to the publishers; it is a great improvement on some former publications and compares very favourably with those of older houses. The engravings, however, might receive more careful attention.

Invasion of the Crimea. A. W. Kinglake, Vol. III, HARPER BROTHERS, New York; HART & RAWLINSON, Toronto.

This volume of what promises to be a somewhat protracted work is entirely devoted to the *Battle of Inkerman*. As it would be useless for us to criticise, so it would be presumptuous to defend such a writer—yet we must disagree with those who have expressed a dissatisfaction at so much space being devoted to a single battle: one most memorable as the "soldiers battle." It is certainly minute history, but still it is history; and though the vision may be dazzled by the multiplicity of details, the decisive moments and graphic incidents chronicled make it intensely interesting to Englishmen and soldiers.