

and leading-strings, they put up so many fingerposts that the youthful minds are kept right in the ruts. The thoughtful ones among the teachers do differently: they believe in waking up the mind and getting it to chisel out new ideas independently of any work-director; they encourage their pupils to strike out for themselves, to explore new fields, to look for new truths and new ways of doing things, and, unassisted, to solve problems within the scope of their powers. This is the right course; for the school stands for development of character, of self-reliance, and that can be acquired only through self-activity. Well says Diesterweg—and these golden words cannot be too often held up to teachers: *'Lead your pupils to self-reliance through SELF-ACTIVITY in the service of all that is true, beautiful, and good.'*

Current Events.

—THE next convention of the American Institute of Instruction will be held next July in Montreal. Mr. Albert E. Winship, of Boston, editor of the *Journal of Education*, and president of the Institute, was in Montreal lately, arranging for the coming meeting. The society is largely New England in its constituency, though it has quite a membership in New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. It has met out of New England but twice in its history. It usually has from a thousand to twenty-three hundred teachers in attendance, and always has the names of many of the most distinguished educators of the east on its programme. The programme for the next convention will be as attractive as any that has ever been presented in America. Aside from the popular evening sessions, in which both American and Canadian speakers will take part, there will be three section meetings each day, and there will also be the best educational exhibit ever seen in this country in connection with any educational meeting. Mr. Winship says there will be from one one to three thousand educators from the United States here at that time attracted by the programme, the city, and the many charming excursions up and down the river and into the mountains. He prophesies that most of the teachers will spend their vacation in this vicinity. The teachers and educationists of the United States may be sure of receiving a warm welcome to Montreal and Canada at the hands of their fellow-workers in the Dominion.