To Mr. Murray we tender our sincere sympathy and would say: "More homelike seems the vast unknown,

'Since she has entered there. To follow her were not so hard, Wherever she may fare She cannot be where God is not

On any sea or shore. Whate'er betides, thy love abides,

One God for evermore." Last week brought welcome showers of rain, and warm weather now prevailing, there is every assurance of a good crop this year.

A new confessional, certainly a very fine piece of workmanship, has been placed in the Church. It is a great credit to Mr. Keenan, who is the architect.

A Marquee erected in Gratton school grounds, where the "ante" and "post" reception could be held and "post" reception could be held our Backache, Lame Back, Diabetes, for worshippers in St. Mary's, Dropsy and all Kidney and Bladder might be in order. Indeed the Ger- Troubles. man band might be in attendance. Price 50c. a box or 3 for \$1.25.all desiers. The misuse of the English language by passers by, on account of the impassable state of the sidewalk might thus be avoided. Regina Catholics, move on.

Your correspondent certainly feels grateful to the readers of "Regina notes" who have sent so many kind words of enquiry both verbally and through the mails during the enforced temporary absence of the "Notes" from the columns of your valuable paper. These courtesies are very pleasing, and the fact of being told that we are He first inquires if they are really Price \$5 net, to accompany each order, missed, is most acceptable, even as new as they pretend to be, and though we feel satisfied that we in nine cases out of ten he finds, really and candidly do not deserve as the Wise Man did 3,000 years what is so kindly said of us.

GENA MACFARLANE.

FIRST PRINCIPLES IN EDUCA-TION.

A Paper Read Before the Dominion Educational Association, Rev. Lewis Drummond, S.J.

The thoughts which I purpose submitting to your kind consideration turn on the importance of capped by a profound ignorance of First Principles in Education. By "first principles" I mean the funda- have no real personal acquaintance mental assumptions on which an with the philosophical acumen of educator works, the philosophical Plato and Aristotle, the resistless basis of his efforts. He may not livering allowance of Closes the Is a purely vegetable System call it his philosophy, but such it undoubtedly is. No mistake can be terse wisdom of Horace and Taci- Renovator, Blood Purifier and osophy is but a mental luxury for Augustine, the luminous intuitions the few. An implicit, unconscious, of Aquinas, the melodious rhythm but very real, philosophy possesses of that Mantuan poet whom Ten- the same time on the Stomach, the mind and influences the conduct nyson styled "wielder of the Liver, Bowels and Blood. of every peasant. Metaphysical stateliest measure ever moulded by doctrines, sooner or later, filter the lips of man." down from intellectual summits to the lowest social stata, and be-the lowest social state, and come, for weal or woe, the very monuments of genius in the remote Indigestion, Erysipelas, Cancer, ly of a nation.

large class of teachers a marked than mere ignorance, since it adds tendency to take up with whatever to ignorance the presumption of is new, and as the phrase goes, "up-to-date" in education, we may in some countries the leaders of be sure that this tendency springs pedagogic movements are almost from the unquestioned axiom or first principle that the human intellect is developing from an originally savage state to a future tions and scientific discoveries of are: state of unimaginable perfection. our day and they forget that none Once admit this as a first principle of these discoveries approach in and you are justified in expecting that the newest theories, provided they meet with a pretty general acceptance from those of our con- of a First Cause. temporaries whom popular rumor stamps as experts, are very likely fessions no man attempts to be a the best. But, to every independent teacher unless he has first assimithinker will occur the previous lated the collective wisdom of the question, "Is this principle based ages; no builder of steam engines on fact?" Is there any instance in rejects past principles of his craft history of a savage race becoming unless they have been proved civilized and cultured by its own unaided impetus towards perfect he has tried them all before he

On the other hand, does not recent experience show how arduous and how seldom permanently effect pedagogy of a certain fashionable tual is the process, even when applied by highly civilized and de cautions. It rushes in where angels voted teachers, of civilizing the fear to tread. It inaugurates some savage?

natural impetus towards perfection pecuniary interest in the success of produces in fact anything like pro- that fad. It experiments upon the gressive development of the higher plastic minds of innocent children. powers of the mind? On the con- Instead of developing the latent trary, do not the open records of powers of the child's mind, which the human race describe periods of ought to be one of the chief aims great intellectual development in of education, this type of teacher the fine arts, literature and philos- wants to cram it with ill digested ophy followed by other periods of erudition. "Give the pupil facts. marked intellectual inferiority? broad information, varied instruc-Does not the history of every tion," is his watchword. known nation, if sufficiently pro-



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longed, present epochs of growth, either rapid or gradual, culminating in an age of comparative splendor, followed by decay?

ago, that, in the higher regions of mentality, "there is nothing new The under the sun." He is thus happily saved from that waste of energy that issues in the discovery of secrets never lost, an operation which a witty Frenchman styled "discovering the Mediterranean." He feels immeasurable pity for those who at the beginning and throughout the whole course of their pedagogical career are handithe masterpieces of antiquity. They luxuriant eloquence of Cicero, the greater than to suppose that phil-tus, the startling antitheses of

Having only the vaguest general marrow of the bones, first of a past, the up to-date pedagogue de- Shingles, Ringworm or any disease school, then of a society, ultimate- spises what he does not under- arising from an impoverished or stand; he has THAT HALF- impure condition of the blood. If, for instance, we find among a KNOWLEDGE which is worse the fool. And the mischief is that THE NAMES OF SUCCESSFUL all drawn from that shallow class. Being shallow, they are easily value or importance the simplest and most elementary of necessary truths, for example, the necessity

In all other trades and prowrong; at least he makes sure that adopts new ones, else he will have his fellow craftsmen twit him with ignorance of first principles. But type dispenses with all such prenew fad on the bare word of some Does history prove that the plausible promoter who has a

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