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G A G E ' S .

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WHAT IS SAID BY TWO WELL-KNOWN INSPECTORS.

To the Trustees and Teachers of Lincoln and City of St. Catharines.

As the acting Minister of Education has recently authorized two new sets of reading books, it becomes necessary, to secure uniformity in classes, to avoid confusion in buying, and to prevent loss of money to parents, that Trustees and Teachers shall, with as little delay as possible, consider the adoption of one, and only one, of these series. To exemplify this necessity, suppose that the city of St. Catharines were to adopt one, and the county of Lincoln or the town of Thorold, the other; then children of parents moving from one to another of these places would find themselves obliged to buy new books.

To be in a position to express an opinion on the merits of the two series to the many inquiring Trustees and Teachers, we have compared them carefully, and have no hesitation in stating, that Gage's "Canadian" is superior to the "Royal" series, for the following reasons:

1. The "Canadian" is cheaper by 34 cents per set.
2. The type is much larger and the spaces between lines greater.
3. The engravings are better, and in the earlier books more numerous, thus affording a greater variety and a far wider range in object-teaching.
4. The lessons are carefully graded as to matter and difficulties.
5. The books are not too large, hence may be mastered by the pupils in the two school terms of the year.
6. There is more literature, either on Canadian subjects, or written by Canadian authors on other topics.

The following excellent features of Gage's "Canadian" series seem entirely wanting in the "Royal":—

1. Pictorial tablets adopted to the most modern methods of teaching reading, and embracing admirable black-board drill on phonics, and exercises in *script*.
2. *Script*, in the earlier books, viz.: the primers and the second book, that children may practise, as well as read, *writing*.
3. A series of Bible readings and Temperance lessons.
4. Articles on "How to Resuscitate the Drowned," "How to Retain Health," &c.
5. Definitions and pronunciations of the more difficult words in the lessons, placed at the beginning of each.
6. Questions and suggestions at the end of each lesson, beginning in the second book.
7. A summary of Canadian History.

(Signed)

JAMES B. GREY,
I. P. S., Lincoln.

J. H. McFAUL,
I. P. S., St Catharines.