

and girls, and let them know that they possess your confidence and sympathy. Do not listen to every complaint your boy or your girl makes. At least, if you do, see that you investigate thoroughly. Do not set at naught the discipline of the school, or ask for too many relaxations in favor of your children. Their teachers will probably know your children's characters as well, if not better, than you do yourself, and unless in very exceptional cases, this authority should be upheld at home. What children need particularly to learn in this age is obedience, which is simply putting one's self in a right relation to the world.

THE MONTREAL CONVENTION.

FROM the full reports that have appeared in the public press of Montreal, the late convention of the Teachers' Provincial Association of Quebec has been the most successful ever held in the history of that Association. The president of the assembly was Dr. J. M. Harper, who was ably assisted by the Hon. Dr. Ross, of Toronto, Hon. Judge Lynch, Principal Peterson, Rev. Principal McVicar, Rev. Principal Adams, and the more prominent of the educationists and teachers of the Province, in bringing about the success of the various sessions. It is our intention to refer to the proceedings next month, and to examine the discussions which promoted the greatest interest. The influence which has been exerted upon the teachers to make so much of the selection of officers is said to be a pernicious influence, and one that has for years been antagonistic to everything in the way of solid improvement; and now that one of the

teachers has entered an open protest against that influence the whole history of the trouble will no doubt be exposed in time, and the teachers be led to breathe a purer air of independence of action in their co-operation. Dr. Harper uttered no uncertain sound in his inaugural address, and from time to time we will point out how these views are being endorsed and supported by the men who have evidently been living in the belief that it is the duty of every one, even of THE CANADA EDUCATIONAL MONTHLY, to defend or cover up every indiscretion they commit. In this connection, the report of the speeches of the Rev. E. J. Rexford and Mr. Truell, is especially instructive. If that report is correct, it would seem that Mr. Rexford's logic is of a remarkable kind. Mr. Hewton had asked if it was true that the teachers of the Province would have had another representative on the Central Council of Education, had it not been for the action of the members of that council who are supposed to be representatives of the teachers. Mr. Rexford, by way of reply, said that Mr. Truell had not defended him from certain aspersions made against him, and hence he had used his endeavors, with those associated with him on the Text-Book Committee, to bring about Mr. Truell's defeat as a candidate for the coveted place. When, however, Mr. Truell made his defence quite a different aspect appeared, so that now teachers and others can judge for themselves, and put the blame on the right person.

Another remarkable discussion during one of the sessions was a criticism *pro* and *contra* the new text-book on Canadian history. The merits of that discussion will no doubt be made more manifest when the