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**OUR EDUCATIONAL PAST AND PRESENT.\***

By REV. ELSON I. RENFORD, B.A.

It seems but a few days since I entered this room and received the pleasant but unexpected information that I had been elected President of this Association. I then expressed my high appreciation of the honor you had conferred upon me in selecting me for this important office; and now that I am soon to give place to another, I desire to repeat my thanks for this mark of your confidence. I had the honor, some years ago, to act as your secretary, and I have pleasant recollections of my associations with you in that capacity. I hope that I am not misinterpreting your action in calling me to my present position, when I take it as indicating that my official duties during the eight years which have elapsed since I laid down the office of secretary have not entirely destroyed our former cordial relations, and that you recognize that I have at least endeavored to fulfil the expectations which you then kindly expressed in reference to my work. I am gratified at this expression of your confidence, not merely from a personal point of view, but because of its important bearing upon the general educational work of this Province.

It is impossible to over-estimate the importance of cordial relations between the various officers and bodies charged, under

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\* President's address before the Provincial Association of Protestant Teachers at Montreal, October 16th, 1890.