

in the Commons, and there are very few left in Parliament or out to do him reverence. And yet his share in the transaction would have been precisely the same in the one case as in the other. So true it is that success and failure, not true merit, are the standards of the popular judgment. But whatever the outcome of the present difficulties the sober second thought of the British people will do Gladstone and his cabinet justice. They may have hesitated a little too long, but if so, the very hesitation arose from motives which do them vastly greater honour than a more Jingoistic unscrupulousness could have done. They may have erred in allowing themselves and the nation to become involved in the Egyptian and Soudan embroglios in the first place, but if so, they erred in deference to public opinion, inflamed by Jingo harangues, the very public opinion that is now foremost in condemning them. But it is highly probable that the calm verdict of common sense and future history will be that to have sent the army earlier into the desert would have been to send it to death. Moreover, there is no evidence that its arrival two or three weeks earlier would have made any difference in the result, a fact which is entirely overlooked amidst the general excitement.

### The School.

Dr. T. H. Rand, late Chief Superintendent of Education in New Brunswick, and now Professor of Pedagogy in Acadia College, Nova Scotia, has been invited to attend the International Congress of Educators which meets at New Orleans this week, and deliver an address. Dr. Rand is well known as an able and enthusiastic educator, and it is to be hoped he may be able to attend as a representative of the profession in the Maritime Provinces.

Surely the tactics to which the United States are forced to resort in their efforts to exclude the Chinese, are unworthy of a great nation. What, for instance, can be narrower in the way of national legislation, than the bill recently passed by the Senate, making it a misdemeanour for any man or corporation to employ any alien or foreigner, who may come to the United States without the fixed purpose of becoming a citizen and acquiring a permanent residence? The bill seems aimed against lower Canadian factory workers as well as Chinese navvies and laundry men.

The Chairman of the Finance Committee of London School Board, asks merely for the trifling sum of £1,106,238 2s. 10d., or about five and a half millions of dollars as the year's appropriation for the work of the Board. This sum, which almost takes away the breath of the *School Guardian*, is rendered necessary by the gigantic proportions which the work of the Board has now assumed. As the *Guardian* says 10d. in the pound must be a serious matter to the struggling classes—"the classes just above poverty, but scarcely abreast of prosperity." Probably we need not explain that the references are not to the city on the Canadian Thames, but to its namesake across the water.

If correctly reported, a recent case in a Chicago school shows that some of the teachers in that city need that some one should teach them the first principles of religious liberty. According to the report a pupil refused to take part in certain religious exercises prescribed at the opening of the school, but sat in a quiet, orderly manner disturbing no one. For this he was dismissed from the school, and is now bringing suit to compel his re-admission. The teacher who would thus seek to compel a pupil to take part in an act of religious worship, cannot have studied either the constitution of the United States, or his New Testament to much purpose.

He was a wise man who wished to know what his enemies were saying about him, realizing that their criticisms would be more helpful in correcting faults and otherwise improving character than any praises of friends. While we are thankful for words of appreciation we shall also be glad to receive criticism and suggestion. We give a standing invitation to teachers to tell us what in their opinion, we can do to improve the SCHOOL JOURNAL, to make it more helpful, practical and indispensable to those engaged in the actual work of the school room. Let us hear your opinions, friends and patrons. Anything in the way of practical and practicable suggestion shall receive our best attention.

Many very kind letters are received from subscribers in different parts of the Dominion. The following from Inspector MacKenzie, of Parrsboro', N.S., is to the point.

"The inducements offered subscribers are very liberal, but aside from this, the JOURNAL is of great value to practical teachers and it can be traced in the schools whose teachers have taken it. I will get as many subscribers as I can."

Dr. Rand, Professor of Pedagogy in Acadia College, Nova Scotia, says: "I think you are making a good thing of the JOURNAL. It is bright and interesting."

A teacher writes "I find the JOURNAL a valuable paper and consider it one that no teacher should be without," and so on.

There is great reason to fear that many teachers have too belittling an opinion of the dignity and value of their profession, and that many others are content to jog on from year to year in the same monotonous round of study and routine. Francis W. Parker in the "Practical Teacher," says well:—

"The possibilities for our improvement as teachers are unlimited. In this blessed year, 1885, there is not one of us who may not double his teaching power. Every day that passes could bring precious revelations of truth into our hearts, if our hearts were ready to receive them. Every fresh discovery would bring with it a renewed sense of our personal poverty, indicating the immensity that remains unknown. Other vocations may be confined—that of teaching, never. The way reaches upward to the Infinite."

A movement is on foot to found a Canadian Chautauqua on the banks of the Niagara River. Most of our readers are doubtless more or less familiar with the history of the Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle, organized some seven or eight years ago and already numbering more than fifty thousand students on its roll. Many hundreds of these are to be found