

of Manitoba and was elected secretary of the Diocesan Synod and of the Mission Board.

In 1882 the rapid increase of the population of the province and the consequently increased demands upon his energies, both by his church and educational work, compelled Mr. Pinkham to consider the necessity of confining his attention to one of the two spheres exclusively. His career as Superintendent had been so successful and its influence so universally recognized that it was hoped that he would see his way to devote himself to the educational part of his work exclusively, as the Rev. Dr. Ryerson had done in Ontario; but the claims of his church work were no less pressing, and his labors there had rendered his continuance in it no less essential.

Under these circumstances Mr. Pinkham placed himself unreservedly in the hands of his church to decide what course was best to be taken. After full consideration it was decided that his services could not be spared from the church, and he, recognizing the higher call of duty to lie there, placed his resignation as Superintendent of Education in the hands of the Government in July last. The Government, after an unsuccessful attempt to prevail upon him to recall his decision, at length reluctantly accepted his resignation.

During the twelve years of his Superintendency, Mr. Pinkham has won golden opinions from every one who came in contact with him; his unflinching courtesy, his uniform evenness of temper, and his thorough administrative ability enabled him to guide the educational affairs of Manitoba through the most critical period of their existence, and he leaves them to his successor with few complicated problems to solve and with little but natural growth and expansion to develop into a perfect system.

JOHN B. SOMERSET, ESQ.,

SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION FOR PROTESTANT SCHOOLS,
MANITOBA.

Mr. Somerset was born in West Meath, Ireland, in 1843, and received his education as well as his training as teacher in the endowed college at Multifarnham, in which he ultimately became one of the masters. He removed to Canada in 1861, and entered upon school teaching, which he followed without intermission until 1871.

During this period he took charge of rural village and city schools at various points in Ontario, and was engaged as principal of St. George's School, St. Catharines, when the new law regarding the efficient inspection of schools came into operation. He was then chosen as the first inspector for the County of Lincoln, which position he held for upwards of ten years, during which he was successful in effecting many and radical reforms in the school accommodation and methods of teaching and management, but without exciting hostility or giving rise to any jar or complaint from any quarter.

His relations with the teachers were of the most cordial nature, and he was the recipient of many tokens of their appreciation and esteem. On his retirement from the position in January, 1882, to take that of Inspector for the City of Winnipeg, the County Council unanimously passed the fol-

lowing resolution:—"That this Council hereby express their deep regret at parting with their late public school inspector, John B. Somerset. During the long term of years that he has been connected with this Council in an official capacity, it has been most pleasing to them to meet and to do business with him. By strict attention to his duties, he has won the confidence of all with whom he has come in contact, and his work and influence have assisted very materially in advancing the standard of public school work in this country."

The nature of the work in his new sphere of labor as inspector in the rising city of Winnipeg, where the school population more than doubled in the space of twelve months, called for peculiar powers of organization and management. That such were displayed by Mr. Somerset during his charge of the city schools is sufficiently demonstrated by his selection by the Provincial Government to fill the important position vacated by Archdeacon Pinkham, who also emphatically recommended this step before his retirement.

In his new sphere, Mr. Somerset will have scope for the further display of his ability as an organizer and manager, and of applying his practical acquaintance with all the branches of school work to the development of the school system of the Prairie Province.

THE JOURNAL.

During the past few months the JOURNAL has received commendations from powerful contemporaries. In England the *School Guardian* and the *Schoolmaster*, and in the United States the *New England Journal of Education*, the *Virginia School Journal*, and the *Penman's Art Journal* have each done us the honor of reproducing in their columns different articles from our editorial pages. The independent and impartial proof thus given of the progressive character of this periodical, by the greatest educational papers in our language, needs no comment. We modestly accept the judgment of our elder brethren and refrain from expressing our gratification. We mean to advance where the finger of destiny points our way, and become the greatest educational journal north of the Tropic of Capricorn. Friends and fellow-laborers, rally round your professional journal and assist us with tongue and pen. The field is wide, and the good work calls for self-sacrificing labor. Speak a word in season for the JOURNAL, which will continue as in the past true to the highest interests of the teacher. Deeply as we are indebted to our friends, from Halifax to Victoria, we confidently call for more help to make our pages bright, fresh, and vigorous. Send us something brief and pointed; let us hear all the news. United in a common feeling of brotherhood, the teachers of this Dominion will be able to wield an influence that will make itself felt. By constant inter-communication through the pages of the JOURNAL teachers may

"Daily derive increasing light and force,
Feel less the journey's roughness and its length,
Meet their opposers with united strength,
And, one in heart, in interest and design,
Gird up each other to the race divine."

Speak a word in season for the *Journal*.
Note down your experience for the *Journal*.