

We have expended \$187,000,000 in railways; let us expend something to make our railway systems profitable,

PATRIOTISM IN SCHOOLS.

I could wish, said Dean Carmichael, that in every school-house of the land there were a portrait of the Queen, and that the British flag floated at every school-house door. In moving a vote of thanks to the Dean for his most instructive and most interesting lecture, one of his audience referred with approval to the recent action of the Protestant Committee of the Council of Public Instruction, in ordaining that a part of the equipment grant given to Model Schools and Academies should be expended in the purchase of a flag for each school. Attention might have been directed to a proposal made by the Hon. George W. Ross, Minister of Education for the Province of Ontario, to set apart a day for patriotic exercises in schools, endorsed by the Protestant Committee, which appointed the 23rd of May, the day before the Queen's Birthday, for the purpose, suggesting at the same time that when our aged and venerated Queen shall have ceased to occupy the throne, the celebration may be transferred to the 24th of May with the intention of keeping alive in the memory of future generations of Canadian school children, the blessings that have come to us through the long and happy reign of our beloved Sovereign.

We hope in the next number of the RECORD to publish some valuable suggestions toward the proper celebration of Empire Day.

Practical Hints and Examination Papers.

The *Century Magazine* for February has an interesting article on Dickens as an advocate for reform in child treatment. This is by Mr. James L. Hughes, Inspector of Public Schools, Toronto. The subject is, "What Charles Dickens did for Childhood."

The article is most interesting and inspires one to study again under this new light flashed upon them, the characters of Wackford Squeers and Nicholas in *Nicholas Nickleby*, of Dr. Blimber and little Paul in *Dombey and Son*, of Mr. Creakle, Dr. Strong and David in *David Copperfield*, of Mr. M'Choakumchild, Mr. Gradgrind, Lisey Jupe and the Gradgrind Children in *Hard Times*.