

work. He was, moreover, a ripe scholar; an excellent classic and a good linguist. As an examiner he was scrupulously fair and judicious. His papers, both for the University and the "Intermediate," were models of the art of questioning, and were alike acceptable to the teacher and helpful to the student. His call to go hence was without warning, but it no doubt found him prepared, and the answer "Adsum!" came unfalteringly from his lips. And now, faithful soul,

" . . . doubtless, unto thee is given  
A life that bears immortal fruit  
In such great offices as suit  
The full-grown energies of heaven."

#### THE MINISTER'S REPORT.

COURTESY demands our acknowledging Mr. Crooks's attention in sending us copies, at the no doubt earliest convenient opportunity, of the Education Report for the years 1880 and 1881. But could the Minister have striven to furnish us with advance sheets when the chief organ of his party received them, our obligation to him would have been greater, and our readers might have had in the present number an abstract of the important Blue-book. Mr. Crooks, we trust, will not think us churlish in saying this much, for, on reflection, we have no doubt that he will concur with us in the opinion, that the constituency which this magazine addresses is as specially and immediately interested (we won't say more so) in the contents of the Annual Report as the readers of any political and partisan journal. The hasty glance, which is all we have been able to take at the Report, we are, however, glad to say, prepossesses us. It acceptably covers the years 1880-81, is full of interesting details, and has little of the stereotyped matter we have hitherto been accustomed to meet with in the Educational blue-book. Altogether, the Report strikes us as a great improvement on previous issues, and seems to be an ably-compiled and serviceable document. On many points the Minister's suggestions are valuable, though in regard to Upper Canada College we feel that Mr. Crooks's change of

base, in the suggested disposition of the institution, is not likely to meet with approval. But on this and other matters dealt with in the volume we must defer our criticism. The reports of the County School Inspectors, and the summary of the proceedings at the various Teachers' Conventions, will be read with interest, as will the matter in the High School Inspectors' reports. In the latter we note that the Inspectors reiterate their opinion with regard to the "Intermediate." We wish we could say that the space occupied by the details respecting the Mechanics' Institutes, and the large annual grant made to them, were justified by a more satisfactory showing of the condition and working of these institutions. The proposal to remove to the Education Office the Ontario School of Art and Design, is to be received with caution, unless it is stipulated that its management is to be retained in the hands exclusively of professional artists. The country has had enough of official art patronage, in connection with the Educational Museum, to let this institution fall into the hands of the cognoscenti of the "cleaned-out" Depository. The information supplied in the Blue-book respecting those Universities, Colleges and Schools chartered by the Legislature and those provincially endowed, is a commendable feature of the Report. This alone is an evidence of Mr. Crooks's industry in the past year, and deserves acknowledgment.

#### THE VACANT INSPECTORSHIP.

THE Minister of Education, we are sure, will bear with us if we venture a few remarks in regard to the filling of this post. There is no need to tell him that much depends on his discretion and judgment in making the appointment. The Collegiate Institutes and High Schools are now happily manned by gentlemen of experience and scholarship, and the Inspector of these institutions, if he is to command confidence and be instrumental in maintaining the standard and efficiency of the secondary schools, must at least be the peer of the best master engaged in them.