

would seem that the ministers of Christ are the likeliest agents for its attainment.

And if partyism be still too strong to permit this, yet the minister may, at least, set an example of recognising and honouring integrity and of denouncing impurity and deceit wherever these may be found. He can try to maintain fairness in criticism, gentleness in speech, with manly, candid and persistent acknowledgment of all that is good and honourable on both sides; and this will be no slight contribution towards sweetening the political life of the community. Sometimes we can be of service to others, not so much in helping them to shape their own opinions as in helping them to respect the opinions of those from whom they differ. If we are free from self-seeking and have in some degree the vision of the pure in heart, we may even win sufficient confidence to become peacemakers in politics, mediating between opponents, helping them to regard each other with mutual esteem and to work with purer and more fervent patriotism for the public good.

When we speak of citizenship we are apt to think of politics and of elections, whether municipal, provincial or dominion. Yet this is by no means the only field where public spirit is required, or where the minister may perform the duties of an honourable and intelligent citizen. To him, *e.g.*, more than to most men the educational interests of the community should be dear.

You think, perhaps, that there is little room for him to make his touch or his influence felt. The public school system of the Province has long been accepted; provision is made for its administration; the programme of studies is arranged by the Council of Public Instruction; the Trustees in each section control the engagement of teachers and the general management of the schools. What is there, then, for the minister to do in this connection but to look on and admire the working of the system?

And yet, have we all that we desire in our school system? Have we even the best that is within our reach? I do not wish to criticise the course of studies, but draw attention to a point that should concern every citizen, and that touches very closely the minister's sphere of influence,—I mean the place, or rather the absence, of the Bible in our public schools. I am well aware