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THE TORONTO WORLD

TUESDAY MORNING, JULY 24 1883

THE NEW SCHOOL READERS.

ata- If we except politics there are few things more demoralizing to the community than a trade fight among school book publishers. Our readers will no doubt have noticed that between two publishing firms in the city there has broken out a not very civil war over the question, first of authorization, and secondly, as to the respective merits of two new series of school reading books. The firms concerned in the fray are Messrs. James Campbell & Sor, who have just isbooks, under the title of the "Royal Readers," and Messrs. Gage & Co., who have furbished up an adaptation of a Scotch series in competition with "the Royals," and for which, with no little arrogance, His nose is drawn out to such a length that

they claim the title of "Canadian Readers." Into the trade scrimmage we have no intention of entering, further than concerns the teaching profession and the public, who are vitally interested in the character of the reading books now being approved by our educational authorities for use in the is a trumpery matter: the larger question is as to the literary character of the text books, and their appropriateness for use in difficulty, it may suffice to say, that Messrs. Campbell & Son have had a certificate of authorization from the education depart. ment for the immediate introduction of the "Royal Readers" into the schools of the

their series the honor of ranking first in competition with the other readers submitted to the department for its approval. The only other series as yet authorized is that of Messrs. Gage & Co., which has had a conditional authorization, permitting

province, and they are further in possession

For both series we have already had something to say in these columns, "the Royal," as it deserved, receiving our un tongue is at best a heart-rending task. A germs of disease "may lie for weeks, al fresco. To make any practical use of i qualified commendation. The "Canadian glance through these books will show the months, or perhaps years, between the will require a new location at great cost. Readers" we took somewhat on trust, un- grim pleasantry of the effort that has been piges of a bound book, to be dislodged at derstanding that it was an old country series, originally of repute, and learning that the house that reissued it here had spent money on its adaptation and mechanical outfit. The recent outburst of trade In addition to such elegancies as "really rivalry, and the fact that the "Canadian grand," "more lately," "greatly hunted," series" has had from the education a household of wife and children," "have department only conditional authorization, pending revision, have led us to look more poet was fragile in bodily health," "these critically into the Gage series, and to contrast it not only with its competitor, "the Royal," but with still another and an excellent series, for which authorization has not yet issued. The result of this examina- childhood in the solitary companionship of tion is not only adverse to the Gage series. but it suggests grave doubts as to the wis- married to Capt. Hemans, who, after a few dom of the department in giving it even a conditional authorization. The authorizing body at the education office, we may presume, are the better judges, and we dare say are able to justify their action in contingently recommending the series for use in the schools. But while un- this verse lower than verse 10 . . Emwilling to do more than question their approval of the Gage series of "Canadian Readers," we most decidedly English composition are the youth of the

"Canadian" is not flattering to the national schools, we should not have con- ticipants should have been ruled off the vanity; they merit the title as little as their sidered them worthy of attention. As field, but it appears nobody had the power publishers have a right to call their books a competitive series there may have been to take such a course. To judge from D.'s good literature. They are neither. The policy in allowing its publishers to "bow letter in our sporting columns this morning literary character of the publications of the themselves in the house of Rimmon." But the referee in a lacrosse match is something house that issued them have at no time in the race with Royal Readers, or with the like the governor-general of Canada-little

tated now as come out later on; and the present, and while the literary firmamen may incite to a more thorough revision.

the running head title throughout the work | with thanks. bears the inscription of "English" reader. This recalls the eccentricity noticed in our eview of the "Miller-Millar Marmio"," my doubt that the title is an arrogant one, work would immediately settle the point. The whole of this volume, with the exception of a few pages at its close, is without reference to Canada or to matters pror has been committed in retaining so are innumerable references to the social and pupil is certain to misread and apply to Canada. Why, for instance, should he be told so much about our country, ou towns, our money, our chalk cliffs, which all refer to England, while he learns little or nothing about the possessions of Canada? Ocwhy—
the greater riddle—should he be confronted or principle either, for in England it has with the statement that we spend £150,-

's degradation. Mislading as are the statements in the book, were the matter good as literature, it might be tolerated. But this is far from being the case, and the series can hardly be expected to shine as lamps of style. Many of the lessons indeed suggest the idea that they were never designed to serve page 40 of the Fourth Book bear witness,

than mischievous to libel the country by

noses, or like the noses of ordinary animals, he could not, of course, use it for taking hold of anything; but it is very different. it reaches from his head to the ground when he stands upright, and everbody knows (sic.) it under the name of the 'trunk.'"

Now what ordinary or extraordinary animal of the genius literary is responsible for this imbecile joke ?" To come across schools of the country. The trade dispute such inanity in a school reader is at once to condemn it; and this is but a sample of much of the rubbish we find, particularly in the lessons on natural history, through-Canadian schools. To dismiss the trade out the books. It is possible, of course, that the play on the word "knows" crept in unawares, and that neither editor nor publisher saw the infelicity of the word. There is color for this inference, for the woodenness of much of the text, and the exprovince, and they are further in possession of an official document which awards of an official document which awards traordinary fustian occasionally indulged in ence for his work.

its use by the profession after revision, and sense, and of a grammatical construction that this agency—"measles, scarlet fever, diph- Canada. In fact, it is a disgrace to any counthe correction of errors which appear in the series, and which the department very properly would not allow to pass unchalevidently been beyond both printer and pub lisher. In youth the acquiring of our mother of books, and in just the same way the cheft deave of B.ckford's. One must see it these Readers, it must puzzle, we should person," think, even the central committee to say. never been excelled by any others," "the are what go to make," etc. we have whole passages of the most uncouth and jejune writing. Of Mrs. Hemans, for instance, we have this string of pearls: "She spent her her mother. At the age of 18 she was years, fell a victim to ill health. Left with a young family to bring up, Mrs. Hemans found time to · · do a great deal of original writing." From the elecutionary instructions we make the following extracts: purple, and in fatal cases it shows white "Read this line slow and deep . . Read

country expected to sit! object to the assumption by the publishers of the national designation of the issue, and to much that is to be presented to the youth of the dominion under the guise of a so- tended to devote. But for the announce- does not take action. At a recent match For Messrs. Hage to call their readers poses to authorize them for use in the but nothing was done. People said the par-

In such a period of mental activity as the

expression of our opinion, if the publishers is so bright with the varied thought of the are serious in their design to overhaul them, time, it would really be criminal to be content with reading books for our schools ruled off As D. points cut, such a course Here lie before us the five books of the other than with those that bear the hall is very unlikely to be taken. We agree series, and on what grounds, may we ask, mark of competent scholarship and good with our correspondent that where fouls do the publishers justify their use of the literary taste. For the credit of Canadian title "Canadian?" A glance at the fifth scholarship, and for the best interests of book shows us, indeed, that the title is a education in the dominion, we trust that a pure assumption, for while on title page and book cover the volume is styled "Canadian," they bear will be declined by the profession

When a great strike takes place, when blished by the same house. If there was extensive works are stopped, and thousands of the busy workers of yesterday are going the foreign character of the bulk of the about idle to-day, we get plenty of cheap moralizing on the subject. From almost every mouth the profound remark is drop. ped-how much better it would be to settle the trouble by arbitration; or for both likely to interest Canadian youth. This is parties to get together, talk the matter over simply preposterous in a national series of quietly, and come to some arrangement or chool reading books. Not only is this the other to which employers and employed case, however, but the little of Canadian could reasonably agree. All this about there is in the book is so pitchforced together, without proper editorial adaptation, that the lessons had better have been left out. But this is not the worst. A graver though from frequent repetition it may now have rather a commonplace sound. many lessons of old country origin, in which And very desirable it is, indeed, that the better means of settling such disputes should questions as that of "wages and water. industrial condition of Britain, which the be substituted for the worse, now all too frequently resorted to.

absolutely refuses to treat with the other.

or to open negotiations in any shape or

form whatever, what then? The principle been carried into practice on a scale so 000,000 a year in alcoholic drinks and have large as to make the present telegraphers probably £500,000,000 invested in the strike in America look small in comparison. trade, which, thank heaven, is not true of This dispute might have been settled Canada, though its youthful statisticians by negotiation, or by negotiation will find it here stated. We might cite similar mischievous passages without end: the mistake of admitting them can only be refused point blank to treat with the operrectified by wholesale cancellation. In our ators at ail? Gen. Eckhert refused in any school manuals it is bad enough to dry up way to recognize the telegraphers' union, or any "secret society," we are told. Well, the springs of national life, but it is worse let his high mightiness be informed that the setting b fore its youth what will be read as great iron masters of England, who have perhaps as much reason as he has for standing upon dignity, never refuse to receive deputations from the men's unions. They may refuse the demands made, but they never refuse to hear what union delegates have to say. It seems, however, that the any railway should be forced to employ a Western Union magnates are above all that. In time after this, when the history of the present strike has to be written, it will any intellectual purpose. In the natural be recognized that the grand initial blunder history lesson we feel this specially to be the case. Let the following extract from the whole business was made by the lity. On this railways on their own responsibility. On this railways in question the company, in refusing to treat with the would-be Vanderbilt engles on the recognized that the grand initial blunder building railways on their own responsibility. On this railway in question the company, in refusing to treat with the company, in refusing to treat with the would be thority not likely to be too partial to the

It is reported that Jay Gould and Gen. Eckbert are fighting ; which if true means that the man of many millions thinks his manager has made a blunder. And with the foundations not mentioned to the mogood reason, too, for Gen. Eckhert did more gul-becomes where a piece of work should to jeopardise Gould's hundred millions in one short hour than Dennis Kearney and forty other agitators like him could do in

The London Lancet has made a dis-In any case the result is to spread among the uncultivated a contempt for culture or unhappily to inculcate in the pupil irrever
no more powerful apparatus for the consense for his work.

In any case the result is to spread among opponents of free libraries and with schoolboys. The Lancet declares that "there is this Chatham road, where the bridge fell, is being built by the same person who carried nce for his work.

Elsewhere, in the volumes we have cited, the following terribly circumstantial list beautiful road culled the Grand Junction, the following terribly circumstantial list beautiful road culled the Grand Junction, occur passages that come perilously near nonof maladies most easily communicable by and a more hadly constructed, illy contrived, worsa located road does not exist in and the typography and syllabication have remedy. Dust, we are told, defies all the it would break the back of the most expert made to lighten it. How it is possible to some unpropitious moment when the volteach English of any respectability out of these Readers it must pay the possed on account of his supposed expensive habits in having a horse and buggy now and

The dread disease, known as the black The dread disease, known as the black sional visits from the time keeper already measles, is causing a terrible mortality in reterred to, hence, ex nihilo nihil fir. St. Mary's industrial school near Baltimore, This institution has over 400 inmates. The disease was taken to the school by a boy who had paid a visit to a village near by where the disease was prevailing. A large number of the pupils are now sick, 10 hav ing died within four days' time last week Tents have been procured, and the sick removed to them under the care of the Xavierian Brothers. The physicians in charge say the disease is more quick in its ravages than small-pox. It shows itself first, by pink pustule over the face and body of the patient, from pink the pustule becomes and disappears. Death invariably follows. The children attacked generally die in from phasize "happy," and more slightly "re- from the time they contract the disease. 10 to 18 hours; some die even in six hours lease." At the feet of such a master of The disease is ravaging the country round-

about the college. We find we have given more space to our When a serious foul occurs on the lacrosses critique upon these readers than we had in- field the referee is invariably blamed if he ment that the education department pur- in this city two rather bad fouls happened. been noteworthy; in the present instance, Royal Canadian series, which we understand better than a figure-head. He gives the

bitrator when appealed to. In case of a occur the referee should have absolute powe

Two farriers in Leicester have been fined a shilling each with costs for docking a horse's tail. It was proved that the opera tion was painful and unnecessary and performed only in conformity with fashion Another inbuman practice is the cutting of dogs' ears, a custom which will undoubtedly fall into disuse under the fear of the law, once it becomes known such practices are

Under the alliterative heading of Wages and Water the New York Herald points out, for the benefit of bloated corporations in general, and the Western Union in parlists, if raised. The telegraph company refuses the wages asked by its operators three, or four, or five times the capital actually invested? For their own good monopolists ought to avoid such burning much wiser than the man who thrurts a red hot poker into a barrel of gunpo wder. But if one of the parties to the dispute

BRIDGES AND THEIR BU: LDEES.

To the Editor of The World. SIR : Referring to the "fall of the Eric and Huron bridge" (pons asinorum), which happened lately near Chatham, I am only surprised that we have not such accidents more frequently than we have, when incom petent men are allowed to undertake such things and think it can be carried out in a safe and proper manner without the em ployment of an experienced engineer, merely to save a few dollars through downright greed and meanness; and I think the government should be held c-iminally respons ible for allowing anyone and everyone who can get a charter for a road or purchase a defunct or bankrupt one to commence building in such a hap hazard, or c:iminal manner, altogether jeopardizing the lives of the public who are obliged to travel government should insiet, and the people also, that those who obtain charters to build competent engineer from the beginning to the end. If this was enforced we should get better value for cur money, bring down accidents to a minimum deter every Tom, Dick and Harry man is called the eugineer by the great operators or prejudiced against the com-mogul himself. This engineer, as a nitural consequence, does not get and does not ex-Plainly the way out of the differences between the company and the operators was through arbitration, but this was rendered difficult, it not impossible, by the refusal of the company to recognize the committee of the brotherhood. Had arbitration been the company to recognize the committee of the brotherhood. Had arbitration been possible there is reason to believe that a compromise would have betn effected. As it is, a trial of strength is under way."

oc apletion of this Nickel Plate tramway, and which no doubt will be taken off his hands by the government engineer in a few works so beautifully and in such a workmanit is, a trial of strength is under way." like manner—that is if the bridge does not fall down again before that time, as this is

accident number two.

There is no difficulty whatever in building a bridge over this stream, but it must be planned by an engineer, and the cost of ten cents. This again should not be toler ated, and would not had there been some engineer employ d of even ordinery ability.
With all Ludlaw's scheming he ran no

this for a short time, but he was soon de-

Toronto, July 23, 1883. NOTANDA. The Rossin is the largest hotel in Canada, only two blocks from Union station, corner King and York streets, finest situation in Toronto. Its thoroughly first-class appoint

ments, large corridors, lofty ceilings, spa-cious, clean and well ventilated rooms (the whole house having been painted, frescoed and decorated this spring), detached and en suite, polite and attentive employees in every apartment, together with unexcelled cuisine, make it specially attractive to the travelling public. Elevator running day and night. Hot .nd cold baths on each floor. Electric bells in rooms. Fire escape in each bed-room. Prices graduated.

Catarrh-A New Treatment.

From the Weekly (Toronto) Mail, Aug. 24, Perhaps the most extraordinary success that he sen achieved in modern medicine has been attained Perpais the most extraordinary success that has been achieved in modern medicine has been attained by the Dixon treatment for catarrh. Out of two thousand patients treated during the past six months fully mnety per cent have been cured of this stubborn malady. This is none the less starting when it is remembered that not five per cent of patients presenting themselves to the regular practitioner are benefited, while the patent medicines and other advertised cures never record a cure at all. Starting with the claim now generally believed by the most scientific men that the disease is due to the presence of living parasites in the tissue, Mr. Dixon at once adapted his cure to their extermination—this accomplished, he claims the extern is practically cured and the permanency is unquestioned, as cures effected by hintwoyears ago are cures still. No one cles has ever attempted to cure catarrh in this manner, and no other treatment has ever cured extarth. The application of the remedy is simple and can be done at home, and the present season of the year is most favorable for a speedy and permanent cure, the majority of cases being cured at one treatment. Sufferers should correspond with Mr. A. H. Dixon, 305 and 307 King street west, Toronto, Canada, and enclose stamp for his treatise on catarrh,

GAGE & CO.'S Complete Series of READERS have not received Certificate of authorization from Education Department. Part of GAGE & CO.'s SERIES being found so DEFECTIVE in SPELLING, EDITING and TYPOGRAPHY, that a Certificate for the entire series HAS NOT BEEN GRANTED by the Ontario Government.

We mention these facts for the following reasons: MR JAMES HUGHES, Public School pector of Toronto, and other school attaches we will hereafter name, are EMPLOYED BY GAGE, and are at present traveling round the country endeavoring to obtain the signatures or promises of Inspectors and School Officials, committing them to exert their influence in their respective districts to aid in the introduction of Gage's so-called Canadian Readers, and this too when Gage's Complete Series have not received Certificate of Authorization. WE CAUTION all so approached to BE ON THE ALERT.

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A married woman in Syracuse has sued a young grocer for kissing her without her consent. It is a queer case, and the inference is that he is the homeliest man in the place; though it is barely possibly that he unthinkingly charged the kiss with the sugar, mclasses, honey and other sweet things she purchased on credit.

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If you have trouble with your Kidneys, Liver or Bowels, you will find it the remedy you need." Said She, "Dr. Ballou says it is the best of all

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DANGEROUS KIDNEY DISEASE. "A stroke of paralysis prostrated me, also danger-ously di-ea-ing my kidneys. The doctors failed but Kikney-Wort cured me." E. Slade, 18 Blackstone KIDTEY TROUBLE AND RHEUSATI M.

"Two of my friends had my trouble," says Mr. Elbridge Malcolm of West Bith, Me. "I was given up to die by my physician and friends. We all had Kidney disease and rheumatism. Mine was of 30 years standing. Kidney-Wort has entirely cured all three of us." A SAFE MAN SAVED.

"I had kidney trouble for many years. Kidney-Wort cured me."—J. M. Dows of Diebold Safe Co., 23 Canal street, New Orleans. LIVER DISORDER "Please tell my brother soldiers, and the publication, appeals J. O. Power of Trenton, Ill., through the S. Louis Gobe-Dem., and Home and F. reside that Kinny-Wort cured my liver disorders, whice I'd has for 20 years."—12-2-82.

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