

effective means of enforcing their decisions in reference to these schools. After several vigorous but unsuccessful efforts to reach the elementary schools, the whole attention of the Committee gradually passed over to the superior schools.

The earlier meetings of the Protestant Committee opened up several important questions which, in modified forms, engaged the attention of the Committee for many years. The question of the relation of the professions and professional examinations to the University and school examinations, which was started in 1878, took up a great amount of the Committee's time, until it received at least a temporary quietus in the passage of the B.A. Bill.

The Sub-Committee on Legislation has been a prominent feature of the agenda paper of the meetings of the Committee; and, although much useful legislation has been carried out in accordance with its reports, there is still ample work for the Sub-Committee in connection with the progress of legislation.

The Committee also spent much time in securing from the Ottawa Government the \$28,000 of marriage license fees now placed at their credit. This agitation, which began in the Council, was renewed at the first meeting of the Committee in 1876, and did not cease until the payment of the money in 1883.

In the year 1880, regulations were adopted concerning the qualifications of superior schools and the conditions of admission thereto, and attention was directed to the University school examinations as a standard for teachers.

In the same year provision was made for the publication of the EDUCATIONAL RECORD under the direction of the Committee.

The last decade is full of important educational changes, whether we take the history of the Protestant Committee, or of this Association, or of other departments of educational work. We can only refer to a few of them.

In 1883 a conference of the inspectors of Protestant schools was held, which resulted in several important movements for the improvement of our schools, and which was followed by conferences of School Commissioners in different sections of the Province: a course of study was provided for elementary and superior schools: a Central Board of Examiners was recommended to the Government: and the present Principal of the McGill Normal School was recommended for appointment to his present position.

In 1884 another important step was taken in the recognition of the Teachers' Normal Institutes, and in the changes in the Normal School session to permit the professors to take part in the Teachers' Institutes.