

be the first man to assign to his staff a large share of the credit of training the thousands of graduates of the Ottawa School, but impartial observers, and especially those who have come in close contact with these graduates, know that to the Principal himself is due much of the fame of the school. Not only has he rare tact and good executive ability, but his warm heart and sympathetic manner are strong factors in winning and retaining the affection of students. Every graduate of the Ottawa School can bear testimony to the dignified, courteous bearing of its head. He will also acknowledge that high ideals of conduct and a lofty conception of the teacher's work are the corner-stones of the Principal's philosophy.

The jubilee of September 14, attended by over 500 old graduates, must have cheered the Principal, who has labored for twenty-five years to advance professional training in Ontario. We wish to add our good wishes with the hope that the genial Doctor may long preside over the Ottawa School.

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Ontario is increasing in population, in wealth, in extent of country. On all sides Canada is being recognized as a country of great possibilities, and each province advances in power as the Dominion advances.

We need not enter into figures to prove these statements. We have done that more than once or twice already.

It is being now generally acknowledged throughout Europe and beyond that Canada is a land inviting the hopeful workers from all other lands, be they rich or poor. A land of self-government, of freedom well ordered, of the enjoyment of liberty safe guarded by the "flag" which is the symbol of equal justice,

equal opportunity to every subject whatever his condition may be.

These are human privileges of the highest order. To Canada they have come as an inheritance, the birth-right of every British subject, without respect to race or color. From one point of view—not the highest nor the truest—these good things may be regarded as material, pertaining to this life only.

Good things are easily spoiled or lost.

Are we Canadians, say in Ontario, taking proper precautions to preserve and pass on to the generation following these precious rights and privileges undimmed?

This wide question, important as it is wide, has given the writer much concern.

The education of the people in its various parts is the sphere of exertion in our life, where preparation can be made and precautions adopted to preserve, and if possible to enlarge, these privileges for the enrichment of our children's children.

Meeting the other day one who is and has been for years in touch with the fruit of our educational system in its most vital part, the writer availed himself of the opportunity of getting his opinion on the question: Whether he thought our students, say for example those students who apply for positions as teachers, are now better educated than they were five and twenty years ago?

His answer was a clear unhesitating: No.

This is the judgment of a man who has had wide experience and who is very competent to pass judgment on the point at issue; and we take it to be in reality a close approximation to the truth.

The ratepayers in Ontario contribute their millions annually; the