



To Intending Patrons.

DURING the eleven years Mrs. Fletcher has had the pleasure of instructing young ladies, first in the Girls' Model School for Ontario, and later as Senior Teacher in English and Mathematics at what then was one of the leading private ladies' schools in Toronto, she has carefully observed and reflected upon the advantages and disadvantages peculiar to the schools conducted on the one hand under public supervision, and on the other by private enterprise alone. Both the strength and weakness of the State schools are obvious to all who have given the subject that degree of consideration to which it is entitled. In their favour it may be set down that their patrons are guaranteed by the State that the teachers employed are competent, at least so far as scholarship goes, and that the time provided for in the regulations issued by the Honourable the Minister of Education is given up to the prosecution of the studies enumerated, classified and limited by the same authority. But this much is all that can be put down to their credit, setting aside the benefits conferred by them on the poorer classes of the community, a thing, for the purposes of this prospectus, it may be permitted to be done. On the other hand, the weaknesses and evils of the State schools are very numerous, and of a character so momentous that all parents and guardians, who are not com-