

the teaching of the highest order would still continue to be given in the schools. From this point of view, the master is the school.

Notwithstanding the truth of all that is said above, good text-books are of great value to the earnest teacher, and owing to the large classes in our Public Schools indispensable.

In this connection the words of the *Educational Review*, N.B., quoted in our February issue are timely, as well as the action of the Toronto Public School Board of Trustees. We earnestly urge upon all our teachers wide reading. Every healthy book is of value to the intelligent teacher; only the teachers who can read the signs of the time can stand; for a testing day is at hand.

The Metric System is not difficult to teach. The mastering of the terms is really all there is in it. Couldn't we in Canada work for its adoption, and score the "goal" while the Mother Country is still turning the matter over in that dear old deliberate head of hers? We paved the way for it when we shut the door upon groats, testers, four-penny bits, pounds sterling and York shillings in the days of our youth. The cry of overcrowding our limit-tables need not be raised. Might I suggest some "old familiar faces" which could well be spared to make place for the metric stranger? Well, then, let us bid a "long farewell" (without tears) to "the fifteen early Saxon kings, with their accession dates," which 'have for so long at regular intervals bobbed up serenely on our exam. papers, and let "Ethelbald, Etherbert, Ethelred" and the rest lead off with them in triumphal procession all that old farrago of "thou mightest, couldest, wouldst or shouldst have loved,"

and "love, or love thou, or be thou loved," which tradition unblushingly says "teaches us to read and speak correctly." But why specify these leaden pellets which we all drop into the hungry beaks of our fledglings, and which are (as my small nephew said of porridge) "fillin' but not satisfyin'"? We are all guilty. There is not one innocent, no, not one.

AGNES DEAN CAMERON.

AID TO EDUCATION.—As we are going to press the Hon. the Minister of Education has introduced the subject of granting aid to the University of Toronto. From the *Globe* report we infer that the honorable gentleman is speaking only for himself, which, as the leader of the Opposition said, was a courageous act for Mr. Harcourt. We believe the annual income of the University of Toronto is about \$120,000, and the Minister is authority for the statement that the deficit amounts to \$31,600 in four years. Mr. Harcourt claims that the best way to improve education in Ontario is to give some money to the University of Toronto. Queen's University was quietly passed by.

The leader of the Opposition, Mr. Whitney, contended that the best way to aid education in this province was to grant more money to the Primary Schools. To help the University in order to better the condition of the Public School appeared to him nonsense. Shall we put all our educational "eggs" into one basket? That's the rub. It is the part of wisdom to have the open mind and the seeing eye, but no doubt the members of the House of Assembly will recollect that they are not in Germany, nor in the United States of America, and they will govern themselves accordingly.