

tion in New England owes to Horace Mann, that debt education in Canada owes to Egerton Ryerson.

"He has been the object of bitter abuse, of not a little misrepresentation ; but he has not swerved from his policy or from his fixed ideas. Through evil report and good report he has resolved, and he has found others to support him in the resolution, that free education shall be placed within the reach of every Canadian parent for every Canadian child."

With such of his contemporaries as had, more or less, intimate relations with him, he was regarded with very great esteem, and, in many cases, with the warmest feelings of personal friendship. In a letter written to me by the late Very Rev. Dean Grasett—so long associated with him as Member and Chairman of the Educational Council of the Province,—he said :—

"I shall carry to the end of life the liveliest feelings of respect for the public character, and regard for the private worth of one who has rendered to his Country services which entitle him to her lasting gratitude. . . . I esteem it an honour that I should have been associated with him in his Council for so many (30) years, and a privilege if I have been of the least assistance in upholding his hands in performing a work—the credit of which is exclusively his own."

RIGHT REV. BISHOP STRACHAN :—"One new feature of the School System which I consider of great value, and for which I believe we are altogether indebted to the able Chief Superintendent, it is the introduction of daily prayers in the schools. . . . As far as [Dr. Ryerson] is concerned, I am one of those who appreciate very highly his exertions, his unwearied assiduity, and his administrative capacity."

RIGHT REV. BISHOP BETHUNE :—"I have to express my gratification that I have had the opportunity to bear my humble testimony to your zealous and righteous efforts to provide the sound education of the youth of this Province. I believe that, in the endeavour to give this a moral and religious direction, you have done all that, in the circumstances of the Country, it was in your power to accomplish."

In addition to the foregoing semi-official tributes to the character and labours of the Chief Superintendent of Education, I insert the following more private and personal expressions of the kindly appreciation of his work by persons who knew him more or less intimately, and, who therefore, felt less hesitation in placing on record their high opinion of the great services which were rendered to his native Country by Dr. Ryerson.

THE HON. ISAAC BUCHANAN :—"In the fall of 1831, I came to York to establish a business Branch. From that time, I knew Dr. Ryerson, and formed that high opinion, both of his abilities and of his character, which went on increasing more and more, so that for the last forty years of his life, I regarded him as Canada's Greatest Son."

THE HON. SIR FRANCIS HINCKS :—"Prior to the Union of the Provinces I differed in opinion with Dr. Ryerson on some important public questions. After his appointment as Chief Superintendent of Education, I soon discovered that he was peculiarly fitted to carry out a most important work, and I felt it my duty to aid him to the utmost of my power ; and it was very gratifying to me to know that he acknowledged, on many occasions, that I had rendered him valuable aid. For more than thirty years our friendship was unbroken ; and you will, therefore, readily under-