

the word "shall;" and we feel most confident that the followers of Jesus—the true teachers and patriots—will take care that this law is obeyed in all our schools and schoolrooms. We take this decision as an omen for good, a sure and certain indication of the mind of our people on this most vital question for the upbuilding and moulding of the character of scholars and children. We congratulate the Government that they had the good fortune of passing such a law.

With the plan recommended for giving effect to this regulation, we do not agree in these particulars. 1. Apparently the scripture reading is to be in the evening, it should be in the morning. The work of the school should begin with an acknowledgment of dependence on our Master and Saviour by reading of Holy Scripture and prayer. This has been the general custom hitherto where this part of school duty has been attended to. Then, the scholars and masters are not worried with the school business, every one is fresh and in the best frame of mind to give proper attention to this pleasant part of the day's work.

2. "Where a teacher claims to have conscientious scruples against opening and closing the school as herein provided, he shall notify the trustees to that effect in writing." And what then? The trustees dismiss such a person from the school? Can any such be a teacher? How can he get his certificates of character? We hope no such teacher will be found in any of our schools.

3. The books of extracts to be provided by the Department for reading by the master in the schools. This to us appears a most humiliating arrangement. Surely teachers can be trusted with the Bible in the schools. Is the open Bible to be denied to the schools of Ontario? The Minister of Education must know the plan followed in Great Britain for Scripture

reading. A list of passages to be read is sent to the master, and he can use his Bible and his scholars theirs, and read as we do now in our Sabbath Schools. Ontario wants the same plain sensible mode of doing honest work, and we are mistaken or Ontario will have it. However, these are matters of detail and can easily be remedied; the principle has been affirmed, and the other necessary parts to make the work natural and effective will follow in due time.

JOHN WYCLIFFE.

1330—1384

PATRIOT, POLITICIAN, SCHOLAR AND
TEACHER.

DURING the past few weeks, Christendom has united to do honour to the memory of John Wycliffe, and the English speaking race has recalled with pride, the facts of his personal history, and dwelt lovingly upon his noble career.

Wycliffe's training for his great life work, was received at Oxford University, competent authority stating that at least twenty-five years were spent in preparatory work there in Arts, Theology and scientific study and research. His intellectual supremacy seems to have been unquestioned, and his religious opinions from first to last a continual growth and development; he alone in England, in his day, pointed out the anti-national tendency of the claims put forward by the Church of Rome, and in his first writings, boldly declared that "Dominion" belongs to God only. In thus publicly taking this stand and in his subsequent denial of transubstantiation, he became the first Protestant, and began the Reformation in England one hundred and fifty years before it appeared in Europe, and keeping the purity of the Church steadily in view, he supported John of Ghaunt in his