

edge, have held their positions worthily for years, and have rendered to their country honorable service. The late Chief Superintendent of Education, the Rev. Dr. Ryerson, we know, expected great service to education from these inspectors; called them "the eyes of the educational system." It was his custom to receive reports from them each year, and he had their reports printed in his annual report. Do these inspectors report to the Minister of Education now? We do not know, but every one knows that they do not appear in the Minister's annual report. We do know that many of the inspectors report to the County Councils, copies of which some of them kindly send to THE CANADA EDUCATIONAL MONTHLY; for this courtesy we beg to thank the inspectors. We appeal to the inspectors of this province to explain to our people, the supporters of these schools, what does become of the children who drop out of school before reaching the Fourth Reader class? Some have said to us, the teachers have lost their *grip* of the scholars; the teachers are too young and the pupils do not feel sufficient confidence in them, to hearken to their voice in this question of life work. Do you say the same? Do not disappoint the Chief, who labored so earnestly to have your office made a part of the educational system of this province. Your special duty is, allow us kindly to remind you, the care of all the pupils to the end of the Fourth Reader class.

The burden of the Ontario Educational Association this year was better teachers, higher salaries for teachers and more freedom for the teacher in the school-room. It was remarkable the undesigned unity which was found in all the departments of the Association on these

points. The emphasis was, at least, as strong in the trustee department, as in any of the others. One of the trustees in a carefully prepared speech, used the following words as descriptive of the teaching staff in our Public Schools: "A lot of young, cheap and inexperienced teachers." The same gentleman said, that the same, in a few years, would be true of the teachers in our High Schools and Collegiate Institutes. These statements were supported by other trustees present. To the CANADA EDUCATIONAL MONTHLY these words were very significant. These words were spoken in the trustee department of the Association deliberately, calmly, without any hurry, and, as a matter of course, adopted by the members present as the correct presentation of a lamentable state of affairs in our schools. The trustees present were men from all parts of Ontario; men of culture, experience and insight. We venture to assert that it is much to the credit of the trustees of the province that so large and influential a representation of the trustees of our schools should come every year to the meeting of the Educational Association to consult and devise measures for the betterment of our school system. We were gratified by what we saw and heard at the meeting of the trustees. The earnest desire of the trustees is better educated teachers, more experienced. They object to be "fooled" any longer by having only young boys and girls to take charge of the schooling of their children. The trustees did not conceal their opinion in regard to the securing of properly qualified teachers with the salaries now given. They all confessed that that was a hopeless expectation. The remedy proposed was more money from the Government for Public Schools, contributions to be made by both