

he is applying for an "advertisement," a "principal," or a "public school." An awkward arrangement of words such as the following is by means infrequent: "Sir, Would be pleased to accept the situation you advertise as Principal of the Common School at a salary, etc." It is not uncommon for an applicant to state he enclose a "recommend;" and tautological expressions such as "gave good satisfaction," "taught with good success," abound, not only in the applications themselves, but also in the "recommends" of school inspectors and others. Punctuation is apparently considered to be of very little importance.

Besides defects such as the foregoing, one finds in connection with a considerable proportion of the applications some *guacherie* giving evidence of boorishness and lack of judgment which it is difficult to imagine a highly-educated person being guilty of. One sends his application written on a big sheet of thick blue paper (10" x 14"), ruled in blue and red, evidently torn from some register, dirty withal, and folded fearfully and wonderfully. Another young man uses small sheets of thin, sea-green tinted paper, very suitable perhaps for *billets d'amour* to some village Amanda, but hardly calculated to win the favour of an urban School Board. One begins with the confidential "My dear Sir," and concludes with the ultra-formal "I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servant," and some original souls, scorning conventionalities, place their "Dear sir" at the extreme right instead of at the left of their note paper. An individual may lack worldly wisdom and yet be a genius; but the genius who prefaces his application by censuring his would-be employers for having dismissed their previous Principal, courts the treatment genius is but too often accorded by its con-

temporaries. The country dominie who thought it an important point to submit the information that on one occasion he was presented with "a costly inkstand, graced with the antlered head of a reindeer, a fancy china cup and saucer, an elegant fountain pen, a box of finely-tinted paper and envelopes and some other articles, accompanied by an address" is no doubt even yet wondering why he failed to secure the desired position. A similar feeling may perhaps be entertained by one who wrote "Should your Board, sir, be pleased to accept my application they may depend upon it that they will not regret their choice." But the serene self-confidence which inspired the following is probably superior to disappointment: "I feel confident that should you honour me with the appointment, I shall be able to afford you every satisfaction, and achieve for your school distinguished success." The philosopher whose lengthy application is chiefly a disquisition on the advantages of "experimental psychology," concerning which he has made an "exhaustive study" and some "unique experiments," would appear either to have omitted from his investigations one important class of humanity, viz., practical business men, or to have profited but little from his experiments. And the gentleman who seeks to impress the trustees with the splendour of his intellectual attainments by informing them that he is a "graduate of the American Institute of Phrenology" has apparently not a very high estimate of Western intelligence. Many of the applicants think—and, it may be, rightly—that to be a Methodist, or a Presbyterian, or a member of some other denomination, is a very important recommendation; but one appears to base his claims almost entirely on the following qualifications: "I am a member of the Methodist Church, the