

insult to the University of Toronto, to Canadian scholarship, to the staff of Professors, and to all Canada.

The supporters of the EDUCATIONAL MONTHLY have reason to felicitate themselves on the fact that from these columns was fired the first shot in the war maintained with such spirit against the abuses of the Education Department by the press of both political parties throughout the country. In this we claim to have done good service to the Teaching Profession and to the public. For, in truth, far too little attention was given to such questions, either by teachers, the press, or our public men. No competent or independent educational journal existed, the teachers were apathetic, wanting in *esprit de corps*, at the mercy of the Inspectorate and the bureaucracy of the Department. It seemed nobody's business. The late Examination Frauds, the burked investigation, the flourishing trade in school manuals so shamelessly carried on by members of the Central Committee, but for our persistent, though we trust sufficiently courteous exposure of these evils, might have continued unrebuked. The sentiments we expressed have, we repeat, been endorsed by the press, both Conservative and Reform. With one significant exception, both sides have agreed in treating the education question as one to be considered apart from politics, and on its own merits in the public interest.

I. Of Mr. Crooks, as a member of private society, we have nothing to say, except that a reputation for elaborate dinner-giving, and that kind of social ambition which is called by the irreverent Tuft-hunting, is not a desirable one for a Minister of Education. It is apt to make him think more of a "swell" than a scholar, and in his appointments to prefer those who will shine socially rather than those who have real claims

and who possess permanent working power. And this has been precisely the course pursued by Mr. Crooks from the first.

(a) Let us consider his appointments to vacant positions in his gift. In all cases he has shewn an eagerness to rush away to England at once, giving no chance to Canadians to apply, and burdening this debt-hampered and over-taxed country with the expense of one, or it may be two, costly pleasure trips. He has in every instance seemed to set his face against Canadian interests, and to have pre-determined to promote foreigners at any price.

(b) A case in point was the vacant position in the Toronto Lunatic Asylum. For this Mr. Crooks' colleagues imported an Englishman, one Mr. Gowan, although there were, of course, plenty of men in Canada competent for the post. But we know the unhappy result.

(c) Next, when a vacancy occurred in the Agricultural College at Guelph another importation was made from England, a Mr. Brown, whose appointment, it is a matter of history, was equally unhappy. So much for the judgment shewn in the selection from abroad.

(d) Another instance, this time of Mr. Crooks' own preference for foreigners over well-qualified native claimants, is his fetching out from England Mr. Ramsay Wright to fill the chair of Practical Science. The very qualities which no doubt Mr. Crooks admires in the fortunate foreigners who monopolize his favour, that kind of polished mannerism which Oxford gives, are out of place in Canada, and tend to alienate the independent Canadian student. Mr. Ramsay Wright has a stand-off manner and a supreme sense of his own importance, not at all calculated to impress the Canadian University student