

THE  
EDUCATIONAL RECORD  
OF THE  
PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

---

No. 11.

NOVEMBER, 1892.

VOL. XII.

---

**Articles : Original and Selected.**

A PLEA FOR THE STUDY OF THE TEACHER.

BY H. G. WELLS.

There has grown up, during the present century, a really very respectable literature, at last, upon the child, and how to educate the child. It would even appear that some of the most earnest teachers read this literature, and that the knowledge of educational conditions and method is slowly and steadily increasing. Pestalozzi's resolution, to "psychologize" education, has had its effect, and the study of the thing we cultivate has begun in earnest. No one—in an educational paper, at least—need plead with educationalists for the psychology of the child. But the question of the psychology of the teacher is in an altogether different position; for it is not at all clear in educational literature that such a study is needed. Yet it is, we contend, and most urgently.

One finds that, in the books of pedagogic literature, the gentle reader is more or less overtly assumed to be "one of us," and there is a polite tendency on the part of the author to avoid personality. Your methods, my dear friend, are bad, even very bad, your ideas are rudimentary or wrong, but you yourself, he hints, are Better Nature, pure and simple, and needing only the light. The adoption of this tone enables us to read him in an easy chair, and without any great searchings of