

speech which may be far from representing his real nature and spirit. And I have known men, gentle at heart, who, through living with rough companions, have wilfully cultivated a roughness and even a positive offensiveness of manner, which rendered it intolerable for strangers to have much to do with them. Others acquire the same manner unconsciously. The prevailing spirit and the common habits of the people about us have, perhaps, almost as much to do with the formation of our manner and bearing, as our own disposition; and we shall often be greatly mistaken if we suppose that a man who speaks and acts discourteously, is deficient in right feeling. There is, indeed, a certain refinement and perfection of courtesy, which is the result of successive generations of culture and ease, and of intercourse with people of distinction. It requires a very felicitous temperament, and very felicitous circumstances. But even in the higher ranks of English society, it is said that the grace and dignity and gentleness of which I am speaking are comparatively rare. I remember that Mr. Arthur Helps dwelt upon the perfection of manners which characterized the late Earl of Clarendon as one of his most remarkable qualities, although he was also distinguished for a certain measure of genius, for great practical sagacity, and for an extraordinary knowledge of foreign affairs. This exquisite Courtesy—a beautiful and invaluable thing in its way—is not to be looked for among ordinary people. It is one of the fine arts. It is almost as rare as the higher forms of eloquence. A faultless refinement of manner is no more possible to most of us, than white and soft hands are possible to a ploughman or smith. We must be content with something less perfect and charming. It is enough if we cultivate a right spirit in our treatment of other men, and if we remember habitually that it is a duty to treat all men courteously. Discourtesy is, I fear, a very common sin among Christian people, and it arises, principally, from serious defects in our Christian life. we speak to men harshly; we are irritable and impatient; we are domineering; we wound their feelings; we sneer at them; we treat them contemptuously; we make an ostentatious use of our power over them; we compel them to feel—and we do it intentionally—that we attach not the slightest value to their judgment; and that we have no desire to give them pleasure. I do not know that those who are guilty of these offences are likely to be much influenced by the consideration of the pain and annoyance which they inflict on others by this treatment of them; and yet they ought to remember that a great part of the misery of the world arises from the wanton disregard of the claims of every man to consideration and respect.

VIII. Educational Intelligence.

—SOUTH HASTINGS TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION.—At the recent meeting of this Association, Prof. Macoun then introduced the subject, "How far should the teacher assist the pupil," by stating that the education of a person commenced when but a few days old, and only ceased with their existence; that education was not confined to the school-room, but that the child is being educated at home and on the street, and that there are many schools besides those bearing that name. Some are held on the corner of the street, others in the Churches, and others again in the rooms of the Young Men's Christian Association. He also stated that all teaching should be by induction, and that moral training should be first mental, and then physical; that many teachers failed from overteaching, being too indulgent; that teaching means communicating ideas; that the child should be taught to think, taught to rely upon and use its own powers. Tact in teaching is the art of communicating knowledge so that the pupil can comprehend the idea, and that no difficulty should be told a child, but that it should be encouraged to overcome these obstacles. There are three systems of teaching in this country: 1st, the old, or rote system; 2nd, the cramming system, which is an improvement on the first method; 3rd, the thinking or intellectual system, which is the true method of teaching. The rote system as still pursued to a great extent in our Sabbath Schools, is decidedly wrong, the child repeating Sabbath after Sabbath a number of verses without ever attaching any ideas to what it is saying. To teach properly is to train the child to originate ideas. The Prof. then proceeded to give a general view of his method of teaching, stating that text-books were only aids in teaching, and that the teacher should not trust to the supposed knowledge of the child, but should satisfy himself that it thoroughly understands what it is endeavouring to learn.

He should do what is right and leave the results with God—do everything in the fear of God, taking the Bible for his guide, and God will assist him. Prof. J. T. Bell then delivered his lecture, "Science *vs.* Classics," before the Convention, having previously been elected an Honorary Member of the Association. It is impossible here to give even a brief resume of the lecture. Suffice it to say that the lecturer, in an able and eloquent manner, for more than an hour, proceeded to prove the superiority of the study of Science over the Classics, for improving the mind, drawing out the finer faculties, and extending the sphere of our usefulness. The lecturer was frequently applauded during his discourse, and the lecture itself was certainly an intellectual treat, every line of it seemed replete with instruction, and every sentence to afford ample food for thought. The Convention then proceeded to elect their officers for the ensuing year as follows:—President—J. Johnson, Inspector of Schools. Vice-President—Prof. Macoun, M.A. Secretary—J. C. Squier. Treasurer—W. G. McLachlin. Corresponding Secretaries—Prof. McGann, C. P. Kellogg, S. A. Gardner. The meeting, which was the most interesting, instructive, and successful one that the Association has yet held, then closed. Over seventy persons were present. Much credit is due the Inspector for the energetic manner in which he has worked to bring the Association up to its present standing.

—PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE ENDOWMENT.—The general Assembly of the Canada Presbyterian Church at its recent sitting adopted the following resolutions of a Sub-Committee:

I. The Sub-Committee having read the resolution of the General Assembly relating to the effort to be made to raise \$250,000, and understanding that it contemplated that the amounts already received and invested towards the endowment of the two Colleges, should be thrown into the General Endowment Fund in connection with the effort to raise the amount specified, and with a view to its equal division between the Colleges, is of opinion that the movement in its present form to endow the Colleges can only be successful by adhering to and acting on this understanding. II, The Sub-Committee is of opinion that there should be at the very earliest period in each college not less than four professorships for the following departments, viz.: Systematic Theology, Exegetical Theology and Biblical Criticism, Apologetics, Church History, Homiletics, Pastoral Theology and Church Government. III. The Sub-Committee recommends that the subscriptions should be made payable in three equal annual instalments or six semi-annual instalments, and that no payment shall be called for until \$200,000, including the amounts on hand, be subscribed. IV. (a) The Sub-Committee is further of opinion that it would contribute to the success of the movement if a special trust was constituted by the General Assembly for the purpose of holding and investing the endowment fund, and of distributing the proceeds to the boards of management of Knox College, Toronto, and of the Presbyterian College, Montreal, in such parts that including in this estimate the proceeds of the moneys already invested by the boards of the respective colleges for ordinary college purposes the colleges shall be possessed of the same revenue from these sources. (b). The Sub-Committee recommends that the Trust should consist of five persons elected by the Assembly, two of whom should retire each year, and be ineligible for re-election until a year thereafter. (c). The Sub-Committee recommends that the money should be invested in unquestionable securities, such as government or county debentures, more with a view to absolute security than a high rate of interest. (d). The Sub-Committee further recommends that a professional accountant should be appointed to audit the accounts, and to report to the General Assembly from year to year. V. The Sub-Committee is of opinion that it should be an understanding that the capital fund of the endowment should not be infringed upon for any purpose, and that no part of the annual increase therefrom be applied to any other purpose than the payment of the salaries of the Professors and officers of the colleges at Toronto and Montreal, or the increase of the capital funds. VI. That the following persons be requested to visit the cities and larger towns of Quebec for the purpose of soli