

in which the short cuts to an examination and the *finesse* of school-room empiricism are to be made of more importance than the first principles of the true education. But we do wish to be of service to our brethren all the same, and it is our expectation that we will continue to have their sympathies with us, and possibly their support besides. The third convention of the Dominion Association of Teachers meets this year at Halifax. No more important educational gathering than this has been held for some time in Canada. To the teachers who expect to be present we present our greeting beforehand. A pleasant midsummer holiday is before them. But we would also like to be acquainted with them beforehand, and to all those of them who send in their names to us, we will forward to their address a copy of THE CANADA EDUCATIONAL MONTHLY for six months *free of charge*. We propose to give every attention to the proceedings of the convention, and it will gratify us very much if our plan of previous introduction be adopted and our sphere of usefulness be thereby possibly enlarged. Our magazine continues to gain in favor, and the encouragement we have already received is our only excuse for urging a wider acquaintance among all our teachers from Vancouver to Halifax.

If the honor lately conferred upon Dr. Parkin by Her Majesty is to be looked upon as the first of such honors conferred upon a Canadian schoolmaster, we have to congratulate our *confrere* with all the warmth of professional pride and sympathy; and if it has been conferred upon him for any other reason we congratulate him all the same. As the peripatetic apostle of Imperial Federation, even in face of the somewhat dubious success of his mission, he may be ranked as one of the later apprentices in the

art. of empire-builders, and on this account it is perhaps that he has come to his reward. But we teachers cannot but be all the more gratified with the event, since being a schoolmaster he did not miss his reward. The teacher has but few rewards on earth. He has his pay, that is true; but as the bulk of it comes from the State, no further reward may be looked for from that quarter, and as the rest of it, in many cases, comes from some unsympathizing, perhaps patronizing, parent, the less expected from that quarter, again the less disappointment. Dr. Parkin has been a successful schoolmaster; he has also attained to high rank as a speaker and writer; and hence in order to avoid even the semblance of making a mistake we again congratulate him as one of our most prominent Canadian publicists in presence of the honor Her Gracious Majesty has conferred upon him, and which no doubt is but a precursor of greater honors and more pronounced success.

As every teacher who has run the gauntlet of our school board must know, there are commissioners and commissioners, trustees and trustees. But there are few school boards in country or city that have not *the* school commissioner or *the* school trustee,—the man who feels himself more than qualified to rule everything he can put his hand to as a public aspiring servant,—the man who, if he knows little about anything in particular knows all about education in the general, from the manner in which our teachers should conduct themselves in matters great or small, to how their school departments and school classes ought to be conducted. His previous training and occupations may have led *the* school commissioner as far away as possible from the niceties of the teacher's calling, he may have been kept busy all his days in