

the bishop, in regard to the attendance of the children of Roman Catholic parents who do not support the public schools by the payment of taxes, the Board taking the position that unless the Catholic rate payers contribute to the maintenance of the public schools, their children should not participate in the privileges of attendance at these schools, not an unreasonable position to take in view of the untoward surroundings of this phase of the school question which has been so much aggravated by recent changes in the school law. The case stands at present that the trustees have expelled the children of Roman Catholic parents from the public school, and his lordship, Bishop Cleary, has lost control of his fiery temper. We are compelled to state this much, though we have read the bishop's denial and the explanatory letter by the priest of Napanee. The bishop is dissatisfied with the outcome of public school teaching. So are many others who are far more friendly to the public school of Ontario than the Catholic bishop of Kingston is, but it was very illogical of his lordship to assail the schools; as unworthy of public confidence on account of the rude specimens which he saw in the cars and on the public streets. In his haste the learned bishop may have put his finger on one of the weak spots in our school work. Many recognize the fact, and are labouring zealously for the proper use of the Word of God in our schools, to teach Canadian youths reverence for age, respect for all men and the fear of God, which is the beginning of wisdom.

THE CANADIAN BOY AND GIRL.

THE dislike of or want of taste for manual labour among boys, and the preference for other employments rather than domestic work on the part of our girls, is now bringing before

the community a very serious problem, felt chiefly, we suppose, in our cities and towns, but doubtless extending also to the country districts. An anxious father or mother comes to the teacher with the question, "What shall I do with my son?" and sometimes with the enquiry, "What is my daughter best fitted for?"

The boys must be clerks, agents, travellers, and to make it possible to reach such a high elevation they enter stores and wisely begin at the foot of the ladder; or they must enter a profession, no matter if the father be a labourer—for what father is not a labourer of some sort? And the girls, the poor girls, whose "rights" and "duties" are so much talked about, they must wait in stores, be shorthand reporters, or type-writers, keep books, or even spend long wearisome hours and days in the impure air of a knitting or other factory, a tailor's shop or some such crowded place, quite irrespective of home surroundings, fitness for work, or training for future usefulness.

The general effect of this state of affairs has now become very apparent. It is difficult to obtain a situation for a boy; it is still more difficult for families of limited means who can only employ one domestic to find that very necessary help.

In the remarks which follow are recognized no other "class distinctions" than those which Nature and Providence have established. It would be obviously unfair and unwise to infer that such positions as have been named are not desirable ways in which boys may be trained for obtaining a livelihood; or that girls do not fill the places referred to with credit and efficiency. The evil lies not in the kind of work, but in the overcrowding in certain employments, to the utter neglect of others equally respectable, important and honourable, for the saying of the fathers is