

"And the true order of going or of being led by another to things of love, is to use the beauties of earth as steps along which man mounts upward for the sake of that other beauty; going from one fair form to two forms, from two fair forms to all fair forms, and from fair forms to fair actions, from fair actions to fair notions, until from fair notions he arrives at the notion of absolute beauty, and at last knows what the essence of beauty is."

Then listen to that great modern writer on art, John Ruskin :

"And now in writing beneath the cloudless peace of the snows of Chamouni, what must be the really final words of the book which their beauty inspired and their strength guided; I am able, with yet happier and calmer heart than ever heretofore, to enforce its simplest assurance of faith, that the knowledge of what is beautiful leads on, and is the first step to the knowledge of the things that are lovely and of good report, and that the laws, the life and joy of beauty in the material world of God are as eternal and sacred parts of his creation as in the world of spirit, virtue, and in the world of angels, praise."

Editorial Notes and Comments.

Another meeting of the Canadian National Society has been held in Montreal, and though the numbers in attendance were small, the topics discussed were not lacking in interest. The society, in its devotion to the fostering of a Canadian national sentiment, has hinted, through one of its members, the utilizing of the school as a means of promoting this sentiment, and whether the school is able to bear all the burdens about to be imposed upon it or not, every true-hearted Canadian sees that if there are forces at work in consolidating a broader pride of country than mere provincialism, their action is slow and their effects since Confederation all but invisible. The Nova Scotian is as much a Nova Scotian, possibly as little of a Canadian, as he was previous to 1867, and the Quebecker is, we are afraid, still more of a *Canadien* than a Canadian. In the years before Confederation, our politicians saw the hope of a unification of national sympathies among the peoples of British North America, in a political union, and now, after more than a quarter of a century of our Confederation, it seems doubtful at times whether the political union has promoted provincial sympathies or antagonisms. Sectionalism has been the canker-worm of Confederation; and it is very doubtful whether the Canadian National Society itself does not look askance at the