

upon results, with the view of securing that a larger proportion should be allowed as a fund grant upon average attendance. In opposing the motion, Mr. Mundella said that "payment by results had given a powerful stimulus to education; it had secured an honest equivalent for the vast expenditure of the state; it gave to all the schools in proportion to their efficiency." Sir Lyon Playfair and Mr. Forster supported Mr. Mundella, and with them the majority of the house voted. Against such advocates of the principle, we may place a long list of equally distinguished opponents, and a longer list of persons less distinguished, but more deeply experienced in its effects.

For several successive years the National Union of Elementary Teachers has protested against payments upon results. In 1884 their language was as follows: In the opinion of the conference, the system of payment by results and classification by standards, applied to elementary schools under the conditions of the educational code, is unsound in principle, injurious to education, and productive of much over-pressure upon scholars and teachers; and a code based upon this system cannot be deemed wholly satisfactory."

Mr. Wild, president of the Union, and Mr. Heller its secretary, have given the clearest exposition of the mischief resulting from the system. Says Mr. Heller: "It is the direct cause of over-pressure; it elevates mechanical above educational results; it has damaged the classification and instruction in elementary schools; it condemns the weak and poor schools to a perpetual inefficiency, by withholding the means by which only efficiency can be secured; it has rendered necessary a system of teaching which leaves no permanent mark upon the minds of many of the scholars, and gives them little desire to continue their education after leaving the day-school."

Canon Daniel of the Battersea Training College says: "The ultimate cause of over-pressure is to be sought for in the abuse of the principle which underlies the code,—a very good principle, so long as we are dealing with results embodied in brute matter, but a most dangerous principle when indiscriminately applied to results produced in living children for the benefit of others than the children themselves."

Archdeacon Farrar dealt fully with the principle in a recent