

should have the control of its expenditure. Some objection was raised by Ald. Grenier and Stephens, to the publicity that would thus be given to the sessions of the Board, but this was overruled, and the motion was put and carried.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE PENSION ACT,

To the Editor of the EDUCATIONAL RECORD.

SIR,—In the RECORD of December is published, among other interesting matter, an account of the late Convention of Protestant Teachers held at St. Johns, in which appears the discussion on the "Teachers' Pension Act." It is found on looking over this discussion that Mr. White being "asked his opinion upon the question" said, "There were two questions involved in the discussion," and one was, "*Whether a pension Act was at all desirable*" for teachers. Evidently Mr. White is not to be found among the ranks of those Canadian teachers, who, for a mere pittance, are giving the prime and flower of their days to the work of educating our Canadian youth, with no prospect whatever of any provision in their old days, if they are unfortunate enough to live too long. If he belonged to this class who have now such flowery prospects, I somehow think he would not be in such a hurry to discuss "*whether a pension Act was at all desirable.*" He is not a teacher at all, yet he steps in to discuss "*whether a pension Act is AT ALL desirable*" for teachers. This is really good.

I am afraid it will be too much of a good thing to ever find that the poor unfortunate teachers in "our Quebec" (of progress?)—I do not allude to the few that are getting their \$1,000 and upwards yearly, and are therefore enabled to make provision for themselves; but to the rank and file that remain in the profession of teaching and do the bulk of the work—will have anything to look to in old age to keep them from starvation. Things look as if it would not be "*at all desirable*" for teachers that such should be the case.

Furthermore, if it is left to the teachers to devise a scheme whereby provision will be made for their worthy comrades who make teaching a profession, they will *squabble eternally* and do nothing. So that it is but an act of mercy for something to be done by some power towards forming a fund for deserving and incapacitated teachers when unable to earn a livelihood.

TEACHER.

Quebec, 12th Dec., 1881.

[NOTE.—Our correspondent is a little hasty in his remarks. Mr. White did not volunteer his opinion upon the subject, but it was drawn from him. The words "at all" have been misplaced by "Teacher," and the misplacement slightly alters the sense, by throwing emphasis on the wrong word. (See RECORD, vol. I. p. 510). Lastly, Mr. White's remarks were merely intended to bring a rather rambling debate, much shortened in our account of it, to a focus: in order to this, he pointed out the two questions involved in the discussion. As regards the desirability of the Pension Act, we are disposed to agree with our correspondent. Unfortunately, however, the teaching body is as little inclined to welcome a Pension Act imposed from without, as to agree upon some feasible plan coming from within their ranks.—EDITOR.]