

THE MONTHLY. To its readers and their continued favour and indulgence, we commend him and it. The new editor has many qualifications for his task, both literary and professional—he has an intimate acquaintance with the affairs of education, has spent many years in its service, and has been an enthusiastic friend and promoter of THE MONTHLY. He will have the continued support and assistance of the present sub-editors, and the hearty encouragement of the Directorate and their friends.

It now remains for the writer to say farewell, and in saying it he would ask the friends of independent professional journalism ever to respond to the duty of the hour. It is in their power to accomplish much for education in being loyal to their organ—THE MONTHLY—and thus loyal to the public service and the best interests of the profession. For ourselves, we may say, that the magazine will not lack a friend, or its future a well-wisher, in him who now takes leave of it.

THE "ROYAL READERS" ADOPTED IN THE NORMAL AND MODEL SCHOOLS.

MR. HARDY, the Acting Minister of Education, has authorized the "Royal Reader" series for use in the Normal and Model Schools at Toronto and Ottawa, and in those of the Provincial Institutions in whole or in part educational in their character, in which School Readers are used. This is the natural sequence of the finding of the Central Committee upon which body must rest, the onus of responsibility in the selection of the Readers. The authorities in this instance are already sufficiently disposed to be logical.

The announcement must be interesting to Messrs. Gage & Co., who a few days ago informed the public and the Secretary of Education, that their own series was the one authorized for use, in the Normal Schools. If we did not know Messrs. Gage & Co.'s peculiar methods of foisting their wares upon School Boards, we might have concluded from their blustering advertisements, that the

Secretary was mistaken in his published refusal, to regard their books as authorized for special use. The public will be glad to know the truth; and the authorities will do well to be logical in this matter also, and have an eye upon the partisans of Messrs. Gage & Co., who seem to be always ready surreptitiously to force their books into a circulation they would never obtain upon merit alone.

THE RIVAL READERS.

THERE is no material change in the situation since our last issue. The Royal Readers and the Gage Series are striving each to possess the land for itself, and the Royal Canadian, unauthorized, but hopeful, wait: but opportunity to dispute possession with all comers. For some unexplained reason the Acting Minister, though warmly pressed, hesitates to take action, and in the meantime grave injustice is done to the Canada Publishing Company.

It cannot be too often repeated that this Company were invited by the Minister of Education to enter into the preparation of a Series of Readers, that they entered into the project in good faith, and that they spared neither time nor expense to produce a set of Readers worthy of the country; that, further, they from time to time received suggestions from the Minister respecting the books and acted upon them, and at no time were led to believe that difficulties would be raised as to their authorization. It is no secret that the Central Committee are not unwilling to reconsider the whole question of School Readers, and that some members of it, who had no opportunity of letting their voices be heard when the decision was made, are chafing under a sense of the manifest injustice that has been done to the Canada Publishing Company.

We have already expressed our view that the method of obtaining a new series of School Readers was not the wisest, and that only one series should be in use; but now that at least three series have been prepared in good faith, and two have been authorized, we can see no good reason for