

Now let me go back again to the matter of the committee of this Dominion Educational Association. *Supposing* a committee should be appointed to take up the matter of the improvement of rural schools ; and *supposing* the committee out of its collective wisdom decided that suggestions such as I have made, or others better than them, should be attempted in the way of object lessons, illustrations or experiments, in educational matters ; and *supposing* further that such a committee would undertake to supervise these object lessons, illustrations and experiments, if the money actually needed were provided ; do you not *suppose* that such a committee would do exceedingly valuable work in Canada ? Now, Mr. President, if I may drop the *supposing*, I think I am able to say that if this Association appoints such a committee I know where the funds for such work could likely be obtained to enable the committee to render such a great service to the Dominion of Canada as only trained, experienced, capable and unselfish educators could render to it, when assisted by sufficient money provided by one or more of the generous friends of education in our Dominion.

Such a committee could approach the Departments of Education in the various provinces with suggestions and recommendations and offers of co-operation, which would doubtless be welcomed. Their knowledge, zeal and enthusiasm could carry forward educational work in wise ways with due regard to the varied and manifold needs of the people of Canada. I am sure that out of such efforts might grow what would be of the greatest possible benefit to this country ; and I am confident that one of my friends will make good whatever I have intimated to the Association in my supposing, if such a committee is appointed and takes up the matter of the improvement of rural schools.