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## THE CANADA SCHOOL JOURNAL

An Educational Journal devoted to Literature, Science, Art, and the advancement of the teaching profession in Canada.

—TERMS—

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CANADA SCHOOL JOURNAL PUB. CO. (Limited),  
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THE attention of teachers is invited to the article on "Discipline as a Factor in School Work," by Dr. Wickersham, commenced in our "Special" columns in this number. The subject is comprehensively treated by one who is evidently entitled to high rank as a thinker, as well as educator. This, when completed, will be followed by Mr. Wetherell's paper on "Conservatism and Reform in Educational Methods," and other good things still on hand from the Teachers' Association.

IN Leicester, England, a man was recently sentenced to fourteen days' imprisonment, with hard labor, for fraudulently obtaining remission of school fees by stating that he was out of work and starving when he was actually in the receipt of 26s. to 36s. a week. The case suggests a good many reflections with respect to the workings of the fee system to which so many in England cling so tenaciously. Amongst others the question arises how the system which tempts to such dishonesty and involves punishments so demoralizing, can do so much more for preserving the independence and self-respect of the lower classes, than the above-board free-school system.

WE are receiving many words of approval from our patrons, which are both gratifying and encouraging to us, and which show that the CANADA SCHOOL JOURNAL stands high in the appreciation of educators of all classes. The Superintendent of Schools in Springfield, Ill., himself the editor of a live educational paper, in soliciting an exchange, says: "I regard your JOURNAL as one of the very best I have ever read. . . I would appreciate the favor not alone as editor but as teacher and superintendent." We are still studying to improve the JOURNAL, and intend that it shall not only hold the high place it has attained, but shall move steadily onward and upward. The JOURNAL has an ambition, which we hope is not an unworthy one, to be *primus inter pares*.

It was in the latter days of the Second Empire that M. Victor Duruy was inspecting a school, the show boy of which was called upon by the master, in compliment to the Minister, to mention the principal glories of the Empire. The boy glibly answered, "The Mexican Expedition and the Crédit Mobilier." The Mexican Expedition had then failed, and the Crédit Mobilier had collapsed. The boy, who was supposed to be a budding Republican indulging in impertinence against the Empire, was promptly taken aside and punished. On reference to the authorized text-book, however, it was found that he had simply repeated what was there set down. Our school text-books are not compiled under the influence of an Empire, but they are occasionally compiled under other influences; and their availability as engines of propagandism has not been entirely overlooked.—*The Week*.

Having gone so far *The Week* should go a little farther and point out how and for what our school text-books are being made engines of propagandism. It seems hardly fair to insinuate the charge without some proof. Moreover, *The Week* would be doing a journalist's duty and a service to the public in exposing any such abuse of trust by our text-book makers.

THE Berlin *News* strongly condemns the too common practice of Trustees who, in order to save fifty or a hundred dollars a year, discharge teachers of skill and experience and employ embryo doctors, lawyers and ministers in their places. This is to put a premium on novices, and discourage competent workmen. We hope the *News* exaggerates when it says that three-fourths of the number of young teachers have not the slightest idea of remaining in the profession for more than two or three years. It makes a good point, and one too much lost sight of by both parents and trustees, in the following: "It may be regarded as an axiom that a teacher cannot become acquainted with a school in less than a month. Equally true is the assertion that a school receives very poor attention during the last month a teacher remains in office. Thus we have a loss of nearly two months' pay owing to the short-sighted policy of trustees." These are considerations that would have much weight with a business man in engaging employes for any kind of work requiring skill and knowledge.

FRANCIS H. HOWARD, in a good article in the *N. E. Journal of Education*, on the question, "Can Citizenship be taught in