

vince had so prospered as the result of the working of British institutions for half a century that it offered to undertake this burden. Advantage, however, was not taken of the offer for several years. For half a century longer, Great Britain felt herself obliged to continue to defend us from external and internal enemies. Generally she got little thanks for what she did. We thought it a matter of course that soldiers should be kept at Toronto, Kingston, Montreal, Fredericton, and elsewhere; that expensive forts and batteries should be constructed at Quebec, Halifax, and other points, all paid for by the British taxpayer, and very great was the grumbling in some quarters when the red-coats were at length ordered home from every station but Halifax. But this step, like the other, was in the right direction. To ourselves was confided the trust of keeping the peace within our own borders, Britain, however, being always in the background, ready to help should help be needed. We are accordingly now suppressing the resurrection in the North-West by the expenditure of our own blood and treasure. The taste we are getting of the cost of putting down a few hundreds of half-breeds, and some bands of wretchedly armed, starving Indians, will give us some idea of what our connection with Britain has saved us in the past. The first vote was for about three-quarters of a million, and the next vote will be larger, unless it is divided. How much would the previous insurrection in the North-West have cost us had it not been for Wolsey and the regulars? Well, we are now putting down civil war at our own cost. That is good, but is it enough? There are external enemies as well as internal, though some brilliant writers refuse to believe in their possible existence. These same gentlemen would have opposed the addition of a few hundred of men to the mounted police two years ago, though such an addition would, I believe, have prevented the present disastrous outbreak. That there will be war between Great Britain and some one or more of her numerous enemies before this century ends is almost as certain as mathematics. Should attacks be made upon us, what defences have we save the forts of Halifax and Quebec, and the wooden walls of old England? What protection would there be for our shipping but that fleet, towards whose support we do not contribute one cent? Our press boasts often enough that we are the fifth maritime power in the world. Even tenth-rate powers have to pay for the honor and profit of having shipping, but we are a new kind of power. Britain pays and we enjoy the honor and the profit. In the event of war, what would become of our shipping and our fisheries? How much of the five millions that we received for a few years use of our fishing grounds went to pay for the fleet whose previous protection alone made the grounds ours? Not a dollar. Britain paid for the "Basilik," the "Detachment," and other bull-dogs, and we put the five millions into our own exchequer. In the event of war, our coasts would be ravaged, Halifax, St. John, our gulf ports, Victoria, and Vancouver taken, the St. Lawrence water way invaded, Montreal laid under contribution or in ashes, if there were no irresistible fleet to keep watch and ward for us, no swift cruisers to sweep the seas. You say that these evils would come upon Canada, because of its connection with Britain. Of course they would, but you at least have already decided, and decided wisely, in my opinion, that union with England is preferable to isolation or annexation, and we cannot have any condition of things without its risks and responsibilities. Children fancy that they can eat their cake and have it, but though some

able editors talk like children, Canadians are not children. In a word, the fleet of England is indispensable to our security, yet we have never paid a cent for ships or men or guns. Can this state of things continue? Is it consistent with our honor, with our self-respect that it should? At present, the poorest day laborer could come here from England, Scotland or Ireland, the man who is too poor and ignorant to have a vote even under the new Franchise, and standing upon a moral eminence above the millionaires and merchants of Montreal and Toronto, above all our Right Honorables, Honorables, Senators, Members of Parliament, Principals, and what not, say to the whole box and dice of us, "Worthy gentlemen, worthy children, I protect you!" And yet people cry out, why not let well alone? Is it well? I say that we must do what is right in this matter, unless we are to sink utterly under our own self-contempt. How shall we do it? Why, we have the power to do it at once, in the exercise of our own self-government. Let the Premier move and let the leader of the Opposition second the motion that a sum—no matter what the amount, provided the principle is conceded—any amount that may be considered reasonable in the circumstances—be offered to the mother country, and be made an annual charge on our consolidated revenue, as our voluntary contribution towards the expense of our common guardian, the fleet. This is the first step for us to take, and until it is taken our protestations of loyalty cannot be considered as anything better than lip-service. I invite the attention of those gentlemen who say that Federationists confine themselves to generalities to this point. Let them settle this before they ask us to go into other details. One step is enough at a time. When we have taken it, we shall see more clearly what is the next step. Some of these have already said in effect that Great Britain does not need our money and has made no demand, that we gain by her generosity, and that she would be obliged to have a fleet even if Canada did not exist. And these are the arguments of grown men! Let us be wards as long as possible and accept rations as long as they are offered. To aim at anything higher is to be sentimental. Certainly, sentiment is the last thing of which they are likely to be accused. We gain by our present condition, do we? We lose more than we gain. We lose everything when we lose self-respect. I never knew man or nation yet that gained by spurning. I demand the responsibilities and privileges of a man, and first of all the privilege of paying my own way. We talk of our loyalty. Let us back our talk with deeds, unless we would have our cheers for the Queen sneered at as gas. Remember, there is no need for extra machinery to enable us to do our duty. We can do all that is needed at once. We voted \$100,000 for poverty-stricken Irishmen, and at the same time those poor Irishmen were being taxed to protect us. Would it not be manlier to vote a million to pay for what we got? Some congregations when in arrears to their pastors to the extent of thousands of dollars, get up donation parties and present them with handsome purses of a hundred or two, with the unexpressed hope that nothing shall thereafter be said about the past debt. Was that the principle on which we voted so freely our \$100,000? We have all the representation we need to enable us to do our duty, remember. Besides, the measure of representation can never be the measure of duty. Women cannot send some of their number to Parliament or even vote for men, but they do their duty none the less. Thousands of Canadians have no votes, but they pay their taxes and are ex-

pected to do their duty to the country. How many of the British people were represented in Parliament in the days of Alfred, Cromwell, Nelson, but all the time England expected every man to do his duty. England has done her duty by us and let us not forget it. Whenever we have needed her strong right arm it has been raised. What better proof of fidelity can man or nation give? Let us be equally faithful. We could then speak with regard to the protection of our shores as we cannot speak now. We could speak by letter, or cable, or agent general, or in other ways, feeling that we were on the same platform as those we addressed.

What would be the result of such action on our part? It would do more to convince the people of Britain that we are in earnest than fine speeches and loud cheering could accomplish in a century. They would know that they were dealing with men, with their equals. John Bull is a creature of great veracity and sense. He insists on having solid ground under his feet. He himself is always ready to back his opinions or his sentiments with his money, and until we do the same he must have in his secret soul a kind of contempt for us. We must put ourselves right, to begin with. We must create a passion for the unification of the empire in the mother country. When that is done, difficulties that are now insurmountable will vanish. What a destiny for us opens up! To be full partners with the grandest nation in the world, the most extended empire, the wealthiest and truest, the best representative of organized Christendom! That should stir the blood of the coldest among us. If we do our duty we may expect results. A common understanding on commercial matters would be one of these. The difficulty here is great but not insuperable. When the British people are in earnest, things will be done that would now be considered out of the question. A common understanding with regard to foreign relations, the promotion of common interests and the discharge of common duties would be results. And we might look forward in this way and along these lines to an indissoluble alliance with the United States, an alliance or union that would not be purchased with dishonor.

#### EDUCATION IN ENGLISH CANADA.

BY G. PELHAM MULVANEY, M. A., M. D., EX-PRINCIPAL NIAGARA GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

In no respect does the settler sentiment of English-speaking Canada contrast more strongly with that of French Canada than in its attitude towards education. In French Canada previous to the conquest there was no system of public schools; education was left to the praiseworthy but unsupported efforts of the Recollets and the Jesuits.

Not ten years had passed from the first settlement of Upper Canada before the Provincial Parliament passed a law to endow grammar schools in each of the four districts, and a University at Toronto.

The struggle of liberal and unsectarian opinions against privilege and party was fought hard over the attempt of a would-be State church under Dr. Strachan to control the grammar schools and to turn King's College into a stronghold of High Church Sectarianism. No educational influence has been more effective in our Province than that of the Methodist and Presbyterian colleges at Ch.bourg and Kingston; of the former, Egerton Ryerson was for some time the principal; his successor, Dr. Nelles, has more than any other man, contributed to turn the great influence of the Canada Methodist church into the channel of liberalism and culture.

The tide had already turned against the Family Compact, when, by the appointment of a Family Compact Governor, Lord Metcalfe, the Reverend Egerton Ryerson was appointed to the position of Chief Superintendent of Education. Our present Public School and University System, acknowledged to be unsurpassed in the world, is mainly due to Dr. Ryerson. His methods were eclectic, founded on a prolonged series of observations of educational systems in Europe and the United States. Dr. Ryerson was an autocrat, but in the early days of this century the building up of our school system needed the strong hand, the firm will, the impressive presence of its author. After an unsuccessful attempt to combine the office of Chief Superintendent of Education with that of a committee, in which Professors Goldwin Smith and Ambury took the lead, it was resolved by the Ontario Government to vest the charge of the Public School System in a Minister responsible to the people as represented in the Ontario Parliament.

Mr. Mowat's choice fell on one who, while health permitted, proved his ability to supplement Dr. Ryerson's work, the Hon. Adam Crooks. It is painful to reflect that this accomplished and hard-working Minister lies stricken down by a malady more pitiless and hopeless than death itself. His work deserves to live in the memory of his country, especially in building up the system of Model Schools. Mr. Crooks was succeeded in the spring of 1884 by the Hon. G. W. Ross, under whose direction the vexed question of text books has been settled, and an entirely new advance has been made in the matter of introducing art teaching in the Public Schools.

The headquarters of the School System of Ontario are held in the Educational Department buildings, Toronto, of which our columns present a picture. The buildings are one of the best examples of classical architecture in Toronto, and are surrounded by handsome grounds, prettily laid out, the favorite resort of our citizens in the summer months.

Here is held the Toronto School of Art, so successfully set on foot by the Minister of Education; here also is the Museum of Art, with its fine collection of pictures and art objects. An elaborate and most valuable catalogue of this collection has been prepared by Dr. May. We earnestly advise every one who desires to avail himself of the art museum to expend twenty-five cents in a copy of the catalogue. To stroll through a promiscuous collection of pictures is useless: one does not know what the style is, or the date. Still worse is the attempt to form an opinion at haphazard on a collection of engravings, frescoes, or bric-a-brac, of which there is an unusually large and complete collection at the Education Department Museum, and this classification, so elaborately detailed in Dr. May's catalogue, is an art education in itself.

The school system of Ontario begins in the backwoods school section, and culminates in the Provincial University. It aims at giving equal educational advantages to every boy and girl in the Province; as the Hon. Adam Crooks once said to a daughter of the present writer, the Minister of Education and the youngest scholars are engaged in the same work. Our school system teaches an unsectarian morality; it furnishes an artistic and industrial training; it qualifies the poorest and the humblest, as far as education can qualify, to serve society, industrialism, and the State, in the least as well as in the highest place.

No part of the political organization of Ontario is more deserving of admiration