

were this otherwise, Mr. Miller's many years' labour in their service might have counted for something. Eight of his twenty years' work as a teacher had been spent among them. For three years he had worked single-handed, and for the past five he had had but one assistant. Whatever reputation the school had was due to him. He had, moreover, raised the attendance from seventeen to nearly a hundred pupils. He had passed seven University matriculants, three of whom had gained scholarships. He had also turned out four law students, nineteen second-class, and fifty third-class teachers. Yet all this record must be forgotten in presence of the short-comings of a single examination. We fear for the largeness of the trust reposed in School Boards if dismissal for inability to pass a certain number of pupils, or even none, through the "Intermediate," is to be made the rule. If this injustice is to continue, we fear, also, for the educational interests of the country, for good teachers will not accept positions where the tenure of employment is so uncertain. But what craze has come over Trustees in this matter? Do they not know that the truest aim of education is to train the mind rather than to cram it? And what boots it, save for the trifling Government grant, how many shall pass the "Intermediate," if the mental faculties of the pupils are being wisely developed, and their powers of acquiring knowledge rightly trained? Results will come by and by, and they will be the more satisfactory if the right processes of education are not reversed. That wiser counsels among Trustees may yet prevail in regard to this matter, must be the sincere wish of every true friend of education, as well as of the teacher. Meantime it is a pity that good men like Mr. Miller and Mr. Dobson should become the victims of narrow views and false notions.

A MUSEUM FOR TORONTO.

When is Toronto to have a proper Museum? This question appears to evoke but little or no response, and yet, how important an instrument in education is a good Museum! Canada is very much behind the age in this

respect. One of the first remarks made to us the other day by a Canadian gentleman who had just returned from a tour round the world, was to this effect. He noticed in all the Australian Colonies large, fine and prominent buildings which the citizens took a pride in pointing out as their Museums. We do not expect to find in such places the treasures of art and the wonders of science in the lavish profusion noticeable in the Museums of European capitals. But we may well look to see in a Colonial Museum the best possible selection of aboriginal implements, tools and ornaments, of local fossils, of the fauna and flora of the country, and the relics of its early history. Supplemented by good copies and casts of pictures and statues, and by original sketches by provincial artists, such a display would have much to attract, and in time we might hope that growing wealth and love of art would bring original paintings across the ocean. We notice an interesting account in our contemporary, the *Revue de Montreal*, of the opening of the Museum in that city, and hope that Toronto will hasten to follow this example. In order to give a lively interest to such a venture, an energetic management is needed. The new plan of loan exhibits should be resorted to, in order to prevent the institution from becoming stale and unprofitable; no slight danger when we consider the natural scantness of a newly-established collection. Many of the curious old pieces of furniture and household relics of the early settlers' days which were shewn by the York Pioneers at the last exhibition, might have been kept, with the leave of their owners, for temporary purposes, at such a Museum. Again, the recent collection of early printed books shown in Toronto, on the occasion of the Caxton celebration, demonstrates the fact that we are not as a country at all destitute of the material for most interesting literary and bibliographic display.

It is to be hoped that some one having the higher education of the country at heart will make a move in the matter at as early a date as possible.