

# THE ONTARIO TEACHER:

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## THE JOURNAL OF EDUCATION.

In the April number of the *Journal of Education*, our new publication receives a very complimentary introduction to the readers of that periodical. We are told that "the mechanical execution of the TEACHER is very good, and the literary character of the matter of a high order." We acknowledge gracefully the friendly tone in which our humble efforts are regarded, and trust no future issue of our periodical will lead the editor of the *Journal of Education* to change his estimate of its excellence.

But while thus gratefully acknowledging his approval of the TEACHER as an auxiliary in the great work of education, the editor of the *Journal* teaches strange doctrine in regard to the duties and responsibilities of Public School Inspectors, which we propose briefly to notice.

In introducing the subject which constitutes the major part of the article to which we are about to refer, we are told that "It has not been the practice of the *Journal of Education* to discuss personal or theoretical questions as to School Law, further than to expound and justify the law and its adminis-

tration when necessary." Taking this as the basis on which the *Journal* has been conducted, what follows? Simply that whether the law is right or wrong, whether its administration is good or bad, the editor of the *Journal* would rush to the rescue and "justify" it. He distinctly states this to be his business "when necessary," and that it has often *been necessary*, the debates in the Legislature of Ontario, as well as the criticisms in the public journals, fully shew.

But what is the object of a Public Press at all, Educational, Religious, or any other, if not to discuss both theory and practice of the matters within its own particular province? Are we to have the anomaly of the only educational journal in Ontario up to January last—a journal that costs us nearly \$3,000 per annum—dumb as to all theoretical questions of School Law, afraid to utter an opinion, to breathe a sentiment, except what has first been submitted to the Legislature through the Chief Superintendent? Or does the Government of this Province know so little of school legislation, that they must actually engage an Editor and publish