

FLAWS IN OUR SCHOOL SYSTEM.

It is quite in the order of things that after the late Educational Convention our schools and teachers should be open to discussion, and that such an opportunity to air one's especial grievances should be seized upon. Modern training makes critics of us all.

No wonder that elegant ladies who wish to educate their children at the public expense should write moaning letters to the papers, and shudder over the occasional conversational slips of people whose duty it is to elucidate to the rising generation the intricacies of grammar text-books. The public ear should be painfully grated when it hears of mispronounced words, "you wases" and "he don'ts," but the small boys and girls are jubilant. They are logically hoping that they won't have to bother over parsing any more and that the learning of grammar will be done away with, when it is proven that it cannot teach them to speak properly. Are the children right or wrong in wishing to throw their grammars overboard?

Most of us have had occasion to remark the peculiar phraseology of various persons who were walking repositories of grammatical rules. Possessed with all the needful knowledge for using elegant English, they could, alas, speak no language but their mother tongue.

It is sad, but true, that although the brain may forget, and the heart shut the door to a man's early environment, the tongue remembers and betrays him. The thing is, what is the Government going to do about it? Has it any ulterior end in view in the present method of education? Does it intend to go on and allow the nerves of *dilletante* mothers to be shattered as their children repeat the possible mistakes of their teachers? One must get at the root of the matter, so wouldn't it be well to spend a little more money, and train the masses to acoustic sensibility by lessons on the piano and violin? What is the bent of our whole educational system? Is it to make Canadians a nation of practical every-day men and women, or elegant students?

Is the Government preparing for certain future vacancies in the civil service at Ottawa, that our public schools go on year after year cramming children with mathematical problems, and fitting them to be bookkeepers and office clerks? Truly, the hands that once would have guided the plough now wield the pen, and by the present aspect of things it looks as if our statesmen are preparing for a larger consumption of ink in the future than of cereals, and we may confidently expect to find the human head enlarging to the belittling of posterity's hands, unless future Educational Conventions hit upon some plan that may better fit our children for the sort of work the country can provide them with when school days are over

J. M. LOES.

LABOR-SAVING INVENTION.

THE attention of newspaper proprietors is called to MR. GRIP's labor-saving Happy Event stereotype. Plates of this will be furnished cheaply, and enterprising printers will readily see that it is a handy thing which no newspaper office should be without. It is only necessary to fill up the blanks with the names of the parties interested in any wedding affair (mortised spaces being left for the type) and place the block in the form. Following is an impression from the stereo:

A HAPPY EVENT.

The residence of _____ Street, was the scene of a happy wedding on _____ when his daughter, Miss _____, was united in the holy bonds of matrimony to Mr. _____ of _____ The ceremony was performed by the Rev. _____ of _____



THAT PERSONAL PRONOUN.

LADY—"I should like to get a pair of short velvet trousers."

CLERK—"I'm just out of them, Madam."

LADY—"Just out of them—you don't say? My boy is anxious to get long ones on, too. How do you like the change?"

after which the bridal party, accompanied by their friends and relatives, sat down to a sumptuous repast prepared for the occasion, when the health of the bride and groom was toasted by the assemblage with much enthusiasm. The party left by the train for _____, where they will spend their honeymoon, after which they will proceed to their home in _____. The bride was the recipient of a number of elegant and costly presents from her many friends. The duties of bridesmaid were acceptably filled by Miss _____, while Mr. _____, brother of the bride, acted as best man. THE _____ joins in wishing the young couple long life and prosperity in their new sphere.

CAN'T YOU SPARE A DIME?

NOW that the hot wave has come in dead earnest, we trust it will have the effect of warming up the hearts of our readers toward this fund, which is going too slowly. Just think what a single dime from your plentiful store will do. Do yourself the pleasure of giving a day's delight to some poor little waif.



EACH DIME PROVIDES A
HAPPY OUTING FOR ONE
DESTITUTE CHILD

THE FUND.

Previously acknowledged, \$1 50
Anon., Manitou, Man. . . 1 00
S. W. Douglass. 1 00

BUMBLEDOM IN THE WEST.

A CORRESPONDENT in the North-West sends the following as a specimen of wild and woolly Bumbledom. He took it from a hoarding in the enterprising town of Lethbridge:

IMPOUNDED AT LETHBRIDGE, July 19, 1891.

ONE BLACK CURLY DOG.

If not claimed and charges paid within forty-eight hours from date, said dog will be sold at public auction at Sam Davis' Livery Stables, July 21, 1891, and killed and buried in the Galt Bottom, immediately afterward. SAM. H. DAVIS, Pound Keeper.