

page 133, the youthful reader is told that the number of States composing the American Republic is twenty-four; that its climate is like that of other temperate regions of the globe; the soil generally fertile, producing Indian corn and other kinds of grain, with fine pasture, but that the climate of Canada is excessively cold.

Not a word is said about the industry and intelligence of the people of Canada, the fertility of the soil, its agricultural wealth, its great water and railway communications, its manufactures, its excellent public and private institutions, nor indeed of anything which the reader can treasure in his young mind, and which shall foster the love of country and the pride of citizenship. Canada is to Canadian children with these text books placed in their hands, a *terra incognita*.

If the subject matter of these compilations is censurable, certainly the workmanship, the getting up of these Common School Readers is equally open to objection. The privilege of printing these books has been given to a number of publishers, and but little care has been exercised to render them uniform or accurate. Many serious errors and curious dissimilarities occur in the various editions; in punctuation and in syllabication they are at variance with each other, and in consequence they are uncertain and capricious guides. Of these defects many examples might be given, but a few will suffice:—

In Lovell's Sequel, page 75, conspicuous is divided into three syllables; in Campbell's into four. In Lovell, page 96, 'tal-ent'; in Campbell, 'ta-lent'. Misprints are constantly occurring, confusing the teacher and pupil. Take for instance:—

In Dagg's third Reader, page 169, "proportionately"; in Dredge's edition, "proportionably."

In Dagg's third Reader, page 170, "sigh"; in McPhails, "sign."

" " page 171, "they"; in Lovell's, "that."

" " page 173, "fight"; in McPhail's, "field."

" " page 182, "to heaps"; in Lovell's, "in heaps."

" " page 180, "Booshala"; in others, "Booshalah."

" " page 215, "praise," "naught," "seen"; in

others, "pulse," "naught," "been."

And at other places will be found 'Harry for Henry'; 'rough for tough'; 'them for her'; 'song for sound'; 'those for whose' and many other discrepancies.

In Dagg's edition of the Second Book, in the eleventh lesson—"The Stable"—the pupil is informed that the greatest "amusement" of the stable is the horse. In Dagg's edition of the Sequel the following sentences occur—"The dog *who* stood