

member of the community? Is there any reason why his wife should not dress well, or his daughter own a musical instrument or his son drive a good horse? If all the rest of the community are ready to go back and live as people lived in this young country fifty years ago, farmers may not object, but there is something cruelly absurd in asking one class to live as much like Indians as possible in order that the others may live in comfort and many of them in elegance."

—The beginning of a new volume of the EDUCATIONAL RECORD again brings us to the rallying point of urging upon the teachers of the province to help us in our enterprise. We return thanks to those who have assisted us in many ways during the past year, and who have sent us, with words of advice and encouragement, interesting items for our Correspondence Department. Yet we can almost sympathize with one of our contemporaries when he says: "We have a conundrum to put: Why is it that so few are willing to write for educational papers? Our columns are always open to practical articles. There are many able teachers among our readers. We shall always be glad to welcome their suggestions. There is one excellent way of answering this conundrum: that is by removing the necessity for asking it." Another of our contemporaries even goes further than this, further probably than any judicious editor is likely to go when he says:—

"Why is it that a body of school teachers are so undemonstrative? The most eloquent speaker in the land can hardly extract applause from them. They will sit like so many tomb stones, without thinking that a little applause will revive and encourage the speaker. We had the pleasure of attending a small gathering of teachers some time ago and witnessed just such a scene. The president asked for opinions on corporal punishment, and other points on various subjects, and it was like drawing teeth to get an opinion out of them. Now, why should this be true? Are they too ignorant to talk on such subjects? Is it not true that there are teachers in the land who have taught for years and never have spoken a word before an assembly of teachers? The writer is acquainted with such characters, and is free to confess that if these particular teachers had their just dues they would be consigned to the waste basket. They are too modest for any use." While far from sympathizing with the manner in which the case is thus put, we certainly desire to have more of the confidence of our teachers in the correspondence pages of our periodical.