



MERELY SUGGESTED.

Apropos of the proposal to display flags over Canadian schools to mark national red-letter days, the *Globe* says:—"It is obvious that there would be little significance in a display of bunting over every school house if the flags were furnished gratis by the Education Department, and forced up by a general regulation. Much better that the school sections should be invited to hoist a regulation flag, and informed that they can each have one regulation at a stated price. The responses would measure with some accuracy the prevalence of Col. Denison's admirable sentiments; and, moreover, the flags would be taken better care of if paid for directly by the ratepayers."

There needn't be any bother about flags. A *Display of Bunting* in the fashion depicted above would, we are sure, meet with the hearty approbation of the Minister of Education.

HOOTS FROM THE OWL.

No. II.

I WANT to tell the young divinity students that there is a great change impending in ecclesiastical affairs for which they should prepare themselves. The political cry of the right of The People to elect everybody who is to hold any public office is invading the Church. I don't see that it has been such a glorious success in the political world: it seems to me that "The Choice of The People" very often gets there through the ingenuity of some wire-puller, and does not infallibly prove the right man in the right place. However, the cry is fashionable, and bound to prevail. I suppose you in Canada will soon be clamoring for the right of The People to choose their own judges. Indeed, I expect to hear of the school children agitating for the right to elect their own teachers; and then you will see the aspirant for the dominie's chair running round, hat in hand, to secure votes and influence, and promising everything that every school child will demand.

At all events, whatever may come to pass respecting the teaching of secular things, you, my young

cussing whether ministers should not be retired as soon as they are forty-five. I wonder how Sir John, or Mr. Gladstone, or Prince Bismarck would approve of that rule in politics! Or how lawyers and doctors would like it! Indeed, the only professions I know of besides the clerical where this rule applies are those of baseball players, circus clowns and pugilists. Surely the name of Presbyters (elders) should be exchanged for, say, "Youngsters." So my second piece of advice to you is, in the words of the poet:

Enjoy the fragrance of thy prime,
For oh! it is not always May!

Get a good thing whilst you are young. Look out for a place as assistant minister in a wealthy congregation where the minister in charge is likely to die soon—or to get the G.B.

A third hint is this. If you are fishing (I beg pardon again, I mean, if you are a "Candidate," that's the word) for any particular post, be sure you tell The People (*i.e.* the wire-pullers) that you "don't agree with the Bishop"—or the stationing committee, or whatever other power it may be. The People delight in those who "don't agree with

friends, who aspire to be teachers of religious things, must remember that such will be your case henceforth. The idea that every individual member of the congregation of which you may aspire to be the teacher will be suddenly and uniformly imbued with the thought that you, and you only, are just the man that's wanted, is very pretty in theory; but you will find it is not agood working hypothesis. So my first pointer to you is:—Secure the wire-pullers of the congregation; you can find them out if you take the pains:

Then again, remember that the present demand everywhere is for smart young men. I know of a certain congregation which was vacant not long ago. When an applicant came to show off his paces (I beg pardon—I mean preach his trial sermon) the first thing they did was to hunt up his name in the clergy roll; if they found he had been on it fifteen or twenty years, why that was enough to condemn him at once: he was not young enough to be an "Elder." The American papers have been gravely dis-