

tends holding a convention in Canada next year, and that the editor of one of the many educational journals of that city has lately been over making arrangements, having all but completed his programme. As our correspondent puts it, "this is surely the one-man power with a vengeance," against which a certain prominent teacher was lately heard inveighing at the late convention in Montreal. When the Dominion Association of Teachers held its first meeting in Montreal the feeling prevailed that one of the under officers of that body made himself perhaps a little too prominent as a kind of "king-maker," as it has been put; and if our correspondent has not been misinformed, it is just possible that history is about to repeat itself in a second exhibition of indirect personal preferment. We trust, however, that there is nothing in it. If there be, we can only refer our correspondent to the teachers of Charlotte county, New Brunswick, for a corrective.

Last month we gave a synopsis of the Montreal Convention of Teachers, in which it was shown how the three prominent reforms that are being demanded in the Province of Quebec were further emphasized by the teachers in their discussions. It is now all but certain that two of these reforms are on the point of being carried out, and before this number falls into the hands of our readers, the Premier will in all probability have presented to the Legislative Assembly his measure providing for an increased subsidy in behalf of elementary schools, while the Council of Public Instruction will have taken into its consideration a measure for the better utilizing of the Normal Schools to meet the demand for trained teachers. It is needless to discuss these measures at this late moment until the proper authorities have reported progress on them. We

are sorry, however, to find the *Canadian Gleaner* writing concerning Mr. Parmelee's motion, passed by the Convention, in this strain:—

"About as foolish a resolution as could have been devised was submitted in these words:

"That in the opinion of this convention, there should be a large increase in the common school grant, and that any such increase in regard to schools should be distributed not in proportion to population, but in such a way as to recognize the needs of the several schools and to encourage the school boards to support their schools more generously from taxation."

"Supposing this resolution were given effect, the result would be that less government money would go to districts that do well and more to those where the ratepayers do little. Such a resolution will commend itself only to the hierarchy, into whose hands would be thrown an increased amount of public money to be distributed by them, and no small part of which would go to sustain their dissident schools. We believe it would be better for all concerned, and certainly would be much more equitable to the Protestant minority, were the government grant abolished, and the whole amount required for the schools raised by the ratepayers. The grant is now so small as to be no object in school districts where those interested do anything like their duty."

Religion is the spirit in which all secular life is to be carried on. The reason why a State has a right and a duty to maintain a public school system is that it is the right and duty of the State to prepare its citizens for citizenship; and they cannot be prepared for citizenship without moral training, inspired by the spirit of reverence and love—that is, by a religious spirit.—*Dr. Lyman Abbott in The Century.*