

But however solicitous he was to encourage a high degree of proficiency in the pupil, and to incite to the attainment of a broad and generous scholarship, he never lost the opportunity to inspire our youth with the desire for that more subtle culture which elevates and refines the life, and gives an intensity of pleasure to its pursuits and enjoyments. This aim runs like a golden thread through all his speeches, and places a priceless value upon his words. To call into exercise, in the daily contact of the school, those finer instincts of our nature is a work much needed in our midst, and it should not belong to a rarer species of school-husbandry than the present race of Canadian educationists assiduously to elicit it, and permanently to give it expression.

THOSE who laud, and properly laud, the efficiency of the educational system of Canada must, we fear, learn to speak of the country they eulogize in a somewhat local sense, referring particularly to the Province of Ontario and to the Maritime Provinces. That the Province of Quebec, at any rate, should be excluded from a share in the compliment is, unhappily, but too apparent, if the state of Elementary English Education, in the country parts of that Province, is to be taken as a criterion of excellence. At the recent Paris Exposition, it was specially noticed by French Educationists that that portion of *la belle Canada* inhabited by the people of their own race and language, the Quebec Province, had little share in the honours won for the Dominion by the exhibit in the Canada Educational Court. But the shortcomings of the Province and its French-speaking inhabitants in failing to take part in representing Canada's Educational interests at the Exposition, are trifling in comparison with the apathy manifested at home in the Province, by their English-speaking compatriots, towards the cause of education. At the Annual Convention of Protestant Teachers of the Province, held recently at Bedford, in the Eastern Townships, the condition of affairs in connection with primary education was stated to be most deplorable. The ex-

planation of this is readily enough found in the fact that the salaries paid to the teachers are criminally inadequate to the providing of competent men to take charge of the schools. A further explaining cause is found in the statement, made upon undoubted authority, that not only are the salaries miserable pitances in themselves, but that the teachers—in most instances females—have to submit to the degradation of receiving their remuneration in the set-off form of "board," and this on the vile peripatetic principle. This pinched and starved recognition of education, we are told, extends over a large area of even the oldest and richest counties of the Eastern Townships, the salaries only ranging from \$7 to \$12 per month, and board,—the board being from house to house weekly! Who are really responsible for this blot upon Canadian civilization we cannot say, but the disclosure of such facts flush the face with shame for the greed or ignorance of the community that supinely permits such a state of things to exist. The disproportionate number of English-speaking children in the province, and scattered, as they are, over a wide area, of course, makes it difficult to organize efficient machinery of instruction for their wants, and our miserable sectarian prejudices unhappily stand in the way of co-operation with the French inhabitants to secure any good system of education. No circumstances, however, can well excuse the utter lack of appreciation of what ought to be the priceless services to the community of an experienced, cultured, and capable corps of teachers, with a recognized status corresponding to the dignity and importance of the high duties of their calling. It would, perhaps, be unjust, while we are ignorant of the whole facts, to attach blame in this matter to the Protestant Committee of the Council of Public Instruction of the Province, but they cannot be quite absolved from some share in the responsibility for so discreditable a state of things.

MR. MATTHEW ARNOLD has a paper in the November Number of the *Fortnightly Review*, entitled, *Propter Unum est Necessarium*, calling