

ter of the connection, which, as we shall see further on, is unredeemed by any special excellencies in the books themselves.

The further relationship of Dr. McLellan with Mr. Kirkland, a fellow-worker in the profitable mining operations which have been so assiduously developed of late in the Education Department, is an alliance which, considering the pickings in the ore Mr. Kirkland has been invited to make his own, the senior Inspector should have been scrupulous enough, for his own sake at least, to have discouraged. But in the "big Bonanza" which some of the Central Committee have found in the path of their duty, it was perhaps too much to expect any severe repression of the acquisitive faculty, particularly when the cue was given by the Chairman himself, in plain disregard of the proprieties of official position, by contributing to a work which subsequently must have come before him for judicial appraisal prior to official authorization. Says Mr. Kirkland, in the preface to his work on Elementary Statics, "I have to tender my thanks to several friends for suggestions and assistance which have been of the greatest service to me, and particularly to Professor Young for suggesting several important improvements in the work, and for the excellent collection of examination papers in chapter xii., which add much to the value of the book." Comment upon impropriety so grave as this, in one holding the position of Chairman of a trusted body of impartial advisers of the Minister is, we conceive, unnecessary.

With the morality of the trade enterprise that has enabled the favoured book-house to flood the schools with their publications, as we have said, we do not connect the Minister, nor do we unreservedly associate the Central Committee, as a body. The relations of the senior Inspector

with the house cannot be said, however, to have been without its influence, in connection with the diligent self-assertion of the Inspector himself, in advancing the interests of both parties in the sale of the books. That this influence has in many quarters been resisted, is creditable to the independence of the profession, who, rather than bow to the conditions of success in the introduction of the unauthorized books, preferred to conserve their self-respect and maintain the integrity of their own convictions. Nevertheless, the influences have not been inoperative among teachers, and we are not surprised to learn that thousands of copies have been sold within inconceivably limited periods, as the publisher's advertisements declare—a record of success unprecedented in the history of native publishing! The *ad captandum* character of such advertisements may be gathered from the morality which imposes credence upon the profession for the announcement, in catalogue and title-page of book, of the number of editions published of works issued by this enterprising firm of Canadian publishers. One instance will be as good as half-a-dozen, and the reader will find it in the reprint of Mason's "English Grammar," which, in the copy before us, is announced as the *25th Edition*, an issue which adds the two or three Canadian ones to the 22 or 23 editions issued by the English publishers of the work *before the book came into use in Canadian schools!* But these are matters aside from the immediate subject upon which we intend to offer some criticism, though such illustrations of the genius of puffing are but too apt to be travestied among the profession, and to mislead those who think that the prizes of success are to be gained by the persistent force of similar inflated affirmation. How far the Minister of Education, however, can tolerate the