

JOIN HANDS.

If the Public Schools of Manitoba are Protestant, I will oppose them.—Hon. Wilfred Laurier.

I will support Separate Schools, rather than have Secular Public Schools.—Dalton McCarthy.

We quote the above two sentences from the published utterances of two very different men, both in public life. We also publish in this issue, two articles, one from the *Christian Guardian*, and one from the *Canada Presbyterian*, in order to place before our readers the gist of public opinion in these two large bodies of the Christian Church. The position of the Anglican portion of the community on this question is generally well known. From all these the conclusion is plainly manifest, public opinion is not at rest on the question of moral and religious instruction.

Every where, more, rather than less attention must be given to instruction in morals, to character building as it is now frequently called. No country can stand, much less prosper, which ignores facts. We are moral beings, therefore the keenest and widest and wisest interest must be fully and freely given to those forces which tend to bring into social life men and women whom it is a pleasure and profit to meet in a community. A country can afford to be poor in coal, gold and silver, but to be influential for good, yea, even tolerable in the comity of nations, it must have a population, not wholly given over to acquiring wealth, but chiefly devoted to minding the things which are honourable and eternal.

In England out of every five children in the elementary schools, three are cared for directly by the different churches, and for so doing they are aided by the Government. It has, for some time past appeared to us that for a solution of our difficulty in

our public schools we must look more in this direction than we have yet done. We must provide more working room for our people in every effort of life, and especially so in education. We must work together and work together as friends.

A subscriber writes to us: "I must give up my school and therefore my school paper. I have taught for twenty years, the trustees got a young teacher for a lower salary and I must seek employment of some other kind, because I could hardly make ends meet on my salary. Can you help me to a situation." This process is going on all over the country. Our school machinery is so well adapted to supply young teachers, who are ready, naturally, to take a situation as beginners at lower salaries than their predecessors, that our experienced teachers, especially men, are forced out. Educationally, the country loses very much by this shortsighted policy. What is the remedy? Educate the people to value more highly knowledge acquired by experience. A man, to become a power in knowledge, must work in it and through it till he grasps the full meaning of what he thought he knew. There is no other way of giving a man possession of what he has acquired in the schools. By neglect of this truth our country is suffering loss, by the process above referred to. The gain of four dollars a month any one can see, but very few look at the contra side of the account, which cannot be balanced by many four dollars a month. Our people do not consider.

ENGLISH COMPOSITION AT EXAMINATIONS.

As our readers are no doubt all aware the revised curriculum for Junior Matriculation in arts recently