

tion, we might have had a powerful force acting in Canada tending to the betterment of the teacher's standing and efficiency.

We hereby tender our cordial thanks to the SCHOOL BOARD OF GLASGOW, SCOTLAND, for its courtesy in sending us a copy of its Annual Report, 1901, by favor of G. W. Alexander, M.A., clerk. It is encouraging to note the comparatively liberal annual amount the Government of Great Britain and Ireland pays for the schooling of the children in the elementary schools; and refreshing it is to observe with what impartial eye the Education Department recognizes school work, whether the work is done in Board Schools, Church of Scotland Schools, or Roman Catholic schools (shades of the fathers of the 16th century), or any other school, the work is acknowledged and paid for. We Canadians have not yet reached that plane.

We quote a paragraph from it which deals with a live school question in Ontario at present, and incidentally supports what *The Canada Educational Monthly* advocated some time ago. It is plain to us that every scholar in our public schools should pass the examination

for admission, which corresponds very closely with the Merit Certificate examination, before he is allowed to leave school.

"In view of the position the Merit Certificate holds in regulating school arrangements, it is satisfactory to note that 1,916 scholars have been successful in gaining this Certificate, or 272 more than last year. The number at the Merit Certificate stage throughout the year was 3,566, and of these 2,844 were presented. As a consequence of the Education (Scotland) Act, 1901, the Merit Certificate ceases in itself to exempt a child under 14 years of age from further attendance at school. *The Committee are of opinion that every child who goes through the normal curriculum of an elementary school should have an opportunity of obtaining the certificate, and they expect that only in exceptional circumstances will a child be allowed to leave school without it at the age of fourteen.* The probable increase in the number of children between the ages of 12 and 14 who will remain at school when the new Act is in operation may require some revision of the existing arrangements for the instruction of older scholars, but any changes decided upon would naturally take place at the beginning of next session."

#### COMMENTS.

The National Educational Association of the United States, in recent convention in the city of Minneapolis, in a forcible resolution, pronounced in favor of the restoration of the Bible as a text-book in the public schools. Those who have labored to take away the great reproach from our public school

system in Canada will be glad to know that the movement toward giving the Bible its proper and rightful place gathers force in many quarters. It is true that the Association asked that the Bible be studied chiefly as literature, and not as a teacher of moral and religious truth, but even if it could be