

hardly distinguishable from Gladstone's in tone, the only outcropping of Jingoism being in the single sentence in which, while stating the undisputed proposition that it is the duty of England to make provision for the defence of her Indian frontier, he added that she "should also stretch out beyond, so that when the tide of war comes, it will not come near the English defences." These words, it is true, may mean a great deal and, taken in their widest sense, would foreshadow a policy that would make war inevitable. There is little doubt, however, that if challenged by Russia, they will be shown to be tolerably harmless.

The School.

We have received the first number of *The Kindergarten and Drawing School Monthly*, published by Selby & Co., 28 Wellington St. East. It is, as the name denotes, to be a journal specially devoted to Kindergarten and Drawing.

"Teacher," writing to the Editor of the *Mail* on the subject of University Examinations, is obviously right when he claims that "it is only justice to ask that no tutor or professor shall set papers for examinations at which his own classes and outside candidates are competitors."

A pleasing feature of the McGill Calendar referred to elsewhere, is the lists of subscriptions by private benefactors to the general and special endowment funds. These lists occupy several pages of the Calendar, and speak well for the interest taken in the work of the college by its friends in Montreal and elsewhere. We cannot but feel that our own university will never be on the right track until the men of wealth and intelligence in the city and province begin to come to its aid with similar liberal benefactions. So far as its dependence upon public funds stands in the way of this it is a source of weakness rather than of strength.

A real grievance of the teacher, and one which seems hopelessly beyond the reach of remedy is the undoing of much of his work by the misuse of vacation. So many children are permitted to run wild during holidays that many a teacher would, we dare say, be almost willing to forego the rest, rather than suffer the disappointment and pain which are sure to be caused him by the evident deterioration of some of his pupils during the recess. In many cases it seems as if the work of months were destroyed by the evil associations of a few days. Boys and girls who, by dint of patient effort, seemed to have been fairly started on the rising grade, will come back stolid and refractory as ever. However, these cases are generally exceptional and, as we have said, there seems no help for them. This trouble may as well be borne philosophically.

Two projects of great merit are just now before the citizens of Toronto. One is the establishment of an Industrial School for immigrant boys at Mimico. Mr. W. P. Howland and others who have the matter in hand, are pushing it forward as

rapidly as circumstances will admit, and the success of the project may be considered assured. The other is the founding of a somewhat similar institution for girls. A committee of ladies representing the Woman's Christian Association, the Northern Woman's Temperance Union, and the City Relief Society, have been for weeks maturing a scheme of preventive work for neglected girls. The commodious building known as the old Maternity Hospital, at the corner of Richmond and Sheppard streets, has been rented for the purpose, and contributions are now being asked for repairs and fitting up. In September, classes in cooking, sewing, and various other departments of domestic economy will be opened, under the supervision of a class of young ladies, who have prepared themselves at the Kitchen Garden Normal School, to which we lately referred. Coffee, reading and recreation rooms, also an employment bureau, will be opened in connection, under the auspices of the W.C.A. Both these enterprises represent the very best phases of modern practical philanthropy, and are deserving of the warmest encouragement.

David Dudley Field, in an address before the New York Language Club a few weeks ago, took occasion to refer to the needless iteration which is so expensive and absurd a feature of legal and public documents. He instanced the tautologies in the constitution of the United States, such as "The President shall by and with the advice and consent of the Senate," "necessary and proper laws," &c., and further pointed out that in an ordinary deed of transfer 860 out of 950 words are superfluous. For recording deeds and mortgages 10 cents per 100 words are charged. There are recorded in one month in New York 688 deeds and 788 mortgages. A proper economy of words in these would therefore save those who put them on record over \$1,500 per month. Mr. Field further calculates that the people of New York State pay over \$100,000 per year for superfluous words in legal documents. A striking instance of this senseless verbosity has just been afforded in the indictment against Riel, the six counts of which as expressed must contain over 1000 words whereas a clever school-boy could probably express the whole charge clearly and definitely in 100 or 150. The legal fraternity and possibly the printers are about the only persons who can be benefitted by this unseemly repetition and multiplication of words. It is time the common sense of the people forbade it. A society should be formed to promote economy in the use of the Queen's English.

A VEXED QUESTION.

With the recurrence of each commencement season in the United States, the vexed question of the right of the Ancient Classics to retain their place in the college courses comes to the surface. The *Christian Union* sensibly observe, that an advance step would be taken if the disputants would but change the form of the question from What to How. It is as the Union observes, impossible to dismiss ancient literature from the college course, and equally impossible to study ancient literature without a study of ancient language.