

they must be recognised. It would be something gained if one could convince the educational powers in high places that remedies are needed; that instead of our educational system requiring merely a few finishing touches to render it perfection itself, it is really set on a wrong foundation and must some day be pulled down and built over again on another basis. In another article we shall set forth some suggestions towards reducing the number of examinations.

DR. POTTS reports that he has obtained in promises \$180,000 of the \$450,000 needed to take Victoria to Toronto. The most ardent Federationists cannot call such a result a brilliant success. Eighteen months have now elapsed since the General Conference adopted the "scheme," and appointed Dr. Potts to get the money. At the Conference \$95,000 were promised by five gentlemen. Only \$85,000 it would seem have been promised since, though the efforts made have been earnest in the extreme, and the mowing has been where the grass was thickest. Evidently the graduates and friends of Victoria do not take kindly to the Scheme. One hundred and eighty thousand dollars would do much for Victoria where she is. If spent on the work of uprooting old and erecting new buildings in another place the money will be thrown away. Certainly, it will add nothing to the teaching power of Victoria or of Ontario.

FROM time to time one hears the lament that the youth of this country have ceased to read solid and instructive literature. Of the great majority this is only too true. They have turned all the attention which they have time or inclination to bestow upon books to the perusal of novels, from third or fourth rate ones downwards. Their interest in even these is not of an intellectual kind; nor of the higher forms of

the sensuous. It is sensuous merely, and of that kind which enervates and dissipates both moral and intellectual vitality. The chief object in reading the novels is to get at the plot of the story and the exciting situations in it, it matters not how awkward and unnatural these may be. An evidence of the lack of interest in good literature is to be found in the numbers who take advantage of the Mechanics' Institute libraries throughout the country. The numbers are very small; so small that in some cases the attempt to enlighten the people in this way has to be given up altogether. Even the interest which they still manifest is not of an encouraging character. Examine the books in almost any of the libraries, and what do you find? The greater part of the good literature remaining there year after year hardly opened, much of it with the leaves uncut, while the volumes of light literature are almost worn out. How is this to be remedied? The only really thorough remedy which suggests itself to us is that some of the typical novels of the day be made text books in our schools and a regular system of examinations be established in connection with them. Let it also be made vital to the teacher's interest that these examinations shall be passed in the shortest possible time in proportion to the extent of the ground to be covered. This method has been found to work admirably with all other subjects and we know of none which could more effectually root out the present wide spread desire for enervating literature.

A NUMBER of the poems of the late George Cameron, for some time a student of Queen's, have been arranged for publication by his brother. They have now appeared and seem to have been very well received by the literary world so far as it has expressed its opinion. In this issue we give a review of them taken from a recent num-