

inbruted specimens of humanity pummelling each other. But on the other hand every such exhibition has an educative effect in the direction of coarseness and cruelty. When these exhibitions are openly carried on, under the thin guise of artistic operations with soft gloves, and the executors of the law sit and look on approvingly, their degrading influence on the national morals becomes doubly great. We hear it repeated *ad nauseam*, even by men of education and intelligence, that "men cannot be made moral by Act of Parliament." No greater fallacy could be enunciated. To promote public morality is one of the great ends of Acts of Parliament. Whenever the law steps in and puts a stop to practices that are dishonest, degrading, or criminal, it helps to make men moral by shutting up schools of vice, by putting away temptations, by removing foul and contaminating spectacles from before the eyes they would pollute. And this is precisely what the law should do in the case of these sparring exhibitions.

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### The School.

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The office of the SCHOOL JOURNAL has been removed from the premises of W. J. Gage & Co., No. 54 Front St. West, to No. 82 Bay St., to which address all communications should henceforth be sent. Teachers from city or country calling at the rooms will be made welcome.

Some time since a Hughes Scholarship was established at Oriel College, Oxford, in recognition of the services rendered by Mr. Thomas Hughes to the cause of co-operation in England. It is now said that the first scholar to use this scholarship has been admitted to Oriel, and that he comes from the working classes.

A subscriber writes to say that he does not wish to continue his subscription for the present because he is giving up teaching for a time in order to fit himself for advancement to a higher grade in the profession. Why, that would be an excellent reason for taking the paper, if he had not subscribed for it before. The problems and examination papers, given from week to week, coupled with the ever recurring discussion of the theory and practice of teaching, should make the paper indispensable to all who are studying with the profession in view.

We noticed incidentally last week the appointment of Mr. Kirkland as Principal of the Normal School in this city. Mr. Kirkland's long and successful occupancy of the chair he now vacates for the higher position, needs no comment from us. The work he has done and the reputation he has achieved speak for themselves. His elevation to the new position has been, we have good reason to believe, one of those cases in which the office seeks the man, not the man the office, but the duties are not likely to be the less faithfully and efficiently performed on that account. Mr. Kirkland has our best wishes for his highest success in the arduous work of his new and responsible position.

Mr. W. H. Ballard, M.A., (Tor.), who has been for some years Mathematical Master in Hamilton Collegiate Institute, has been appointed Inspector of Public Schools for Hamilton. In School and College Mr. Ballard has throughout distinguished himself as a diligent and highly successful student. On graduating from Toronto University he carried off the gold medal in Mathematics. To the duties of his position in the Hamilton Institute he devoted himself with the true enthusiasm of the genuine teacher and his success has been in proportion to his zeal and ability. We congratulate him on his elevation to the Inspectorship, and the city of Hamilton on the excellence of the appointment, and its relation to the educational progress of the city.

As we have said before, it is the aim of the management to make the SCHOOL JOURNAL more and more the efficient helper of teachers of every grade in their daily work. To aid us in the steady march of improvement, we invite friendly criticism from all the members of the profession. We may not always see our way clear to follow advice, or to adopt suggestions, but they shall always be thankfully received and carefully considered. Twenty years' experience in teaching and several years in journalism have, we hope, taught us at least that we do not yet know everything that is to be known about the one or the other. Show us, readers and friends, what we can do to make the JOURNAL a better and more useful school paper, and we will do our best to make the improvement.

Apropos to remarks elsewhere in reference to the dearth of literary work on the part of teachers, and the value of the power and habit of giving exact and forcible expression to thought in written language, few who have not tried it are aware of the fertility which their own minds might exhibit with proper attention. The average diary writing is probably not a thing to be encouraged. But let any one endowed with an ordinarily active mind, adopt the plan of carrying note book and pencil, and jotting down, as far as may be convenient at the moment, thoughts that occur in reading, or walking, or conversation, with sufficient precision to enable them to be recalled, and he will be surprised at the results. If the mind is directed mainly to any particular subject, an abundance of material for its full discussion will soon be collected. There is no more valuable exercise for the mind of child or adult, than the attempt to give clear and concise expression to its own thoughts in writing.

The doubtful one-book and departmental copy-righting policy adopted by the Ontario Minister of Education, seems likely to be prolific of difficulties. School boards are, we observe, refusing to adopt the new readers, in consequence of their high price. Judging from some school-book advertisements it would seem that in more than one instance already the very objectionable system has been adopted of authorizing books, or promising them authorization, before they are written. Akin to this is the employment of writers by the Department to prepare works on special subjects. No practical publisher would,