

every Board School in England pullulated with Napoleons and Pierpont Morgans, that happy fact would give no foothold for a swashbuckling onslaught on the character of an older and not entirely similar institution. That the Board Schools may be shown to produce a type of character equal to that which is turned out by the older institution is a desire which we share with our critic, and our hope of its ultimate realisation is not less sincere than his: but if this is to come about it can be by no other method of rivalry than that of imitation; and in such a contest to be surpassed is no great grief, if only the cause goes forward: Peter or Paul, we are all apostles.

We put aside, then, the random and merely abusive assertion that the typical Public School man is unfair towards, or jealous of, his less fortunate fellow Englishman. "Afraid of him" he probably is: not in the base meaning of the word as our critic seems to fling it, but as perhaps a proud and anxious elder brother may be "afraid" lest in a time of stress the family honour might suffer in the hands of the younger and less trained members of the house; natures as bold and generous as his own, but hardly yet, he thinks, so closely girded with those chains of service and self-sacrifice which are powerless to bind any but the nobler and more disciplined part of us. Over-anxious he is, no doubt, but his fear is not to his dishonour: and those who could accuse him of either jealousy or timidity in the true sense, set themselves too far below for even the wind of their strokes to reach him.

And now for the rest of this series of confident generalisations. Fairly stated, the arguments are as follows: The Government, in the critic's opinion, are not a good "demonstration" of nobility of soul: therefore the Public Schools do not teach nobility of soul. The Public Schools "made" the War Office: it is ignorant and incapable; therefore the Public Schools made the War Office ignorant and incapable. These are syllogisms of easy manufacture: you postulate what you please and draw any conclusion you wish. Literature "made" a certain critic: he is ignorant and incapable: therefore litera-