## r I, 1904.]

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## [September 1, 1904.]

gret. We are disposed to think, and rejoice in the thought, that our sanctums of learning have lost in a great measure their terrors for the young. A higher conception of childhood is held by those who preside in the class rooms, and a greater readiness to yield to guidance is the answer given by those committed to their care. The old idea of contempt or enmity existing between teacher and taught has vanished with many other broken idols of the past. The cherished discipline that brought fame to the teacher who could pursue his work amid silence so profound that the jingle of the conventional pin could be heard echoing throughout the room, has lost its charms. The Lum of busy little work people is the newer and better ideal. Much we think has been done in the direction of making the subjects of study more interesting and more comprehensible to the young mind, and many conditions combine to make the opening day of school an occasion of happiness rather than sorrow.

## CANADIAN CHURCHMAN.

those who engage in it as a mere incident in their ambitions. This coming and going is by no means an encouraging feature of our educational work. But if the public appears to treat it as of secondary importance, as evidenced by the little value it places upon a teacher's services, it can hardly blame the teacher for escaping at the first opportune moment.

It is quite impossible to estimate the value of a really efficient teacher in a community. The writer looks back upon many wasted years of youth under several teachers who mechanically performed their duties without a spark of enthusiasm or inspiration. There had evidently been no call to service and no conception of uplifting young minds to see new visions. Eventually an exception to this rule came upon the scene and old things passed away and all became new. The ambitious were laid hold of, the joy of wrestling with the unknown entered into the souls of those who sat at his feet. The serve their country. Martin Luther, when at school, remarked that one of his teachers always graciously saluted his class when he came before it, and in other ways showed these young school boys every mark of respect. When questioned as to why he did so, the master replied that he was addressing the future judges, teachers and rulers of the country. Every teacher has before him one or more that is almost sure to ultimately outstrip him in learning or influence, and some of the country children or city waifs, that to-day play about the streets without shoes or stockings, will one day rule over us, and to them we shall look for favours. The change will most likely be due to the work of a skilful teacher.

With the beginning of September, the country realizes a renewal of its varied activities. For this reason, we suppose, the first Monday in the month has been consecrated to the glorification of industry. There is a day for setting forth the glory of



517

## RIDLEY COLLEGE UPPER SCHOOL, ST. CATHARINES, ONT.

The photo-graving of the new Upper School building for Ridley College, St. Catharines, shows a very handsome structure of brick and stone, now in course of erection. It will be completed this fall, and with the Lower School building and the beautiful grounds of eighty acres, will form one of the most attractive school properties in Canada

No class of public servants should be more honoured in the community than our teachers, and in no department of public expenditure should money be more generously and ungrudgingly available than for the education of an on-coming generation. We have not been able to observe that this is the view taken by our provincial statesmen, who are responsible for this public service, and the reason we presume is simply because the citizens, whom they represent, do not demand it. For the promotion of commerce, the construction of railways, and the excavation of canals and other objects that affect the material interests of the people, there are millions of dollars forthcoming. But for the higher purposes of intellectual illumination, we must be content with thousands. If the educational work of our country is to be effectively accomplished. our citizens' must furnish the means to supply not only suitable buildings and equipments, but offer such remuneration for services rendered that the brightest minds will seek the teaching profession as their life work. It is now regarded by most of charm of thought and diction in the literature of the great began to dawn upon minds that before saw only words and phrases. Wherever that man went, young men and women could be found to testify that they owed their first real inspiration to The tone of the whole community in fact him. was coloured by his attitude in and out of the school-room. A fatal accident cut off in youth what promised to be a singularly brilliant career, and his tomb is regarded by more than one as almost a sacred shrine. What he did others have done also, and if this high ideal of the possibilities of the profession were but more fully realized, the country would look to its teachers as the most honoured members among all its citizens. We call upon those who are resuming their duties in the classroom to take themselves and their work seriously; we appeal to them to hallow their labours by every gift they possess, and though the fruits of their toil may not be gathered in coin of the realm, they will reappear in hearts and minds that will gratefully honour their memory, and more perfectly the Empire to which we belong. There is a day when we do honour to our own Dominion, and now there is a day dedicated to the place which the toiler has in all that has contributed to material greatness in the world, and the sanctification of industry in a strenuous age. We congratulate ourselves upon the magnificence of our metropolitan cities, and admire our great public works. We career across a continent over a highway that is a marvel of skill and expenditure, and view with satisfaction the fleets that ride in our harbours. We think of the miles of streets and pavements, the thousands of factories turning out all sorts of things for the convenience and comfort of men. and we say how wonderful are the minds that have planned all these and what commercial genius has brought them to a successful issue! But where does the toiler-the man in overalls-come in? Why, there is not a brick or a stone in all these countless structures that his hands have not fashioned and placed in position. There is not a ditch dug or a drain pipe laid, there is not a nail

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