

made by the Protestant Committee for an annual collection of specimens of school work. Each Academy and Model School is required to prepare, upon approved forms of paper, specimens of school exercises in writing, drawing, map drawing and mathematics, and to forward these to the Department. These specimens will be taken into consideration in the distribution of the grants for the current year, and each school should make an effort to send as complete a collection as possible. The approved form of paper can be obtained from Messrs. Drysdale & Co., 232 St. James Street, Montreal, at 25 sheets for 15 cents, postpaid. Teachers should ask for *approved exercise paper*.

—THE PAYMENT OF PENSIONS has been unavoidably delayed by the great increase in the work of the Department which the inception of the Pension Act has entailed. The clerks of the Pension Fund were fully occupied up to the 1st January in determining the amounts due for back stoppages, and receiving the payments therefor. It was only after the beginning of the new year that the applications for pensions could be considered. This part of the work is now well advanced, and a second meeting of the Administrative Commission will be held in a few days to consider the applications and to grant the pensions. The payments will then be made without delay.

—BOARDS OF EXAMINERS, teachers and candidates for diplomas should study carefully the amended regulations for Boards of Examiners, under which the next meeting of the Boards will be held, in July next. There are not many changes, so far as Elementary Diplomas are concerned, but the changes made require special attention. The points to be remembered are, (1) that the examinations are to be held once a year, the first week in July, (2) that it lasts two days and a half for the Elementary Diploma, (3) that the subject of physiology and hygiene forms part of the examination, (4) that a candidate must take half marks in the more important subjects, and one-third marks in the others, and one-half the total marks in order to obtain a diploma, (5) that only second or third class elementary diplomas are granted on examination.

—SECOND CLASS DIPLOMAS, granted in November last, should be renewed in July next. It is true that diplomas do not expire until November next, but from that date until July, 1888, there