

had to pass them. But Mr. Wade does not propose now to abolish the Law Society on that account; and the examinations now are well up to the mark. In the history of teachers' examinations (both Catholic and Protestant) in Manitoba the same progress may be noted, by anyone desiring to do so. In the earlier years there were hardly any Roman Catholic teachers to be examined (two or three in a class, sometimes none); and the qualifications of those who presented themselves were better known to the examiners by personal intercourse, than by any possible examination. The questions put, therefore, were not such as would be set to a large class of applicants wholly unknown to the examiners. This much is admitted, and Mr. Wade makes the most of it. But it is altogether irrelevant. The Catholic schools were abolished in 1890; and the question is, What were they like then? Mr. Wade sets out in his appendix examination papers of the years 1881 and 1882. Why did he not rather give those of later dates? In the body of his pamphlet, too, he gives some questions "taken at random" (18), but by no random error does he ever wander into the two years just prior to the Act.

### Examinations Since 1890.

If a few questions, moreover, picked out of examination papers "at random" would condemn a school system, it would not be difficult to denounce the present system—it would not be difficult, I mean, to pick out "at random" very ludicrous or childish questions from the examination papers set to candidates *since 1890*. I do not pretend that they prove anything as against the present schools (that is really too absurd); although if they had been given to Catholic candidates, they would, of course, have been most damning evidence of inefficiency—not of the examiners only, but of the schools which the candidates were *going to teach*. Here are a few specimens from examination papers since 1890:

Q. "Describe the common lifting pump. If water has to be raised from a well 60 feet deep, how high must it be lifted?"

How much water was in the well, whether it was full, or nearly empty, and how high you wanted to raise the water, seem to be immaterial!

Q. "Describe the following from a hygienic standpoint:—  
(a) Exercise, (b) Sleep, (c) Bathing, (d) Clothing, (e) Food."

Q. "Define latent heat. Why are vessels for boiling *furnished with lids?*"

Q. "Tell *what you know* of the works of Virgil, Horace and Ovid."