

scholarship in any year to attend lectures during the same year. The reason for such restrictions is not self-evident, and we should be sorry to think that they have been adopted in the interests of any institution; but it is notorious that they are believed to have been pressed by the supporters of Upper Canada College. There is now more reason than ever why these obnoxious regulations should be rescinded. A scholarship is designed to reward merit and to help the deserving; no factitious barrier should be set up—particularly if the suspicion to which we above refer has any foundation in fact. The effect on the scholarship of entrants is undoubtedly bad; for many a young man now takes Senior Matriculation who, did the objectionable rule not exist, would enter for the Junior, and come out at the end of his course a better scholar. How many Senior Matriculation scholars maintain their standing throughout their course?

II. The country generally is, no doubt, ready for the abolition of County Boards and Third Class Certificates. There may be localities where the change may produce temporary inconvenience, but the Province must be now well stocked with holders of Intermediate Certificates. The standard of this examination is by no means a high one: it is one at any rate to which even our lowest grade of Teachers may easily attain, and the High Schools have shewn their ability to produce a copious supply of the non-professional article. The wretched condition of education in counties where better might be expected, is due mainly to the parsimony of Trustees and its natural outcome, the Third Class Teacher. The change will benefit the system both directly and indirectly; for hereafter the Public School Masters will prepare candidates for the Intermediate even more generally than at present. The time may come when most of this class of work will be done by them, and the High Schools become high in more than name. As matters stand, too much of the lower grade of work is being done in these institutions. By far the larger share of the High School grant goes to pay for doing *infra*-intermediate

work—for doing what to all intents and purposes is largely Public School work. In their zeal for a large influx of pupils, the High School Masters have really over-reached themselves. The abrogation of Third Class Certificates will in time do much to remedy this state of affairs.

III. No. 7 of the Regulations that refer to the examination and admission of pupils to High Schools and Collegiate Institutes, directs that "where in any county there are more High Schools than one, and the County Public School Inspector is therefore unable (*sic*) to attend at but one of such High Schools, the High School Master of any other High School shall act as presiding examiner in the place of the County Inspector at the examination for admission at such High School, etc."; and No. 1 fixes the date of the next Entrance Examination for the twenty-ninth and thirtieth days of June—the two days immediately preceding the Intermediate and First Class Examinations, when every High School Master will be engaged in putting the finishing touches on his classes, and when his absence would be impolitic and for many reasons undesirable. Had the times for holding the Entrance and Intermediate been as in former years concurrent, the arrangement would have been an admirable one. No better presiding examiner could be found than the High School Master—we even go so far as to say the High School Master of the locality—for if the Master is fit to be entrusted with the examination of the papers, he is surely morally capable of presiding at the examination, and, as a rule, the Public School Inspector is as anxious to pass the pupils of his schools through the meshes as the High School Master can possibly be to admit them.

We trust that the change of date is an oversight: whether or not, it is an error that should be corrected.

In the many Public Schools which have entrance classes in course of preparation, work will practically cease when the class leaves for examination; for few return after the examination is over; while the teacher, forced to teach till the legal time for closing: