

# THE ONTARIO TEACHER :

A MONTHLY EDUCATIONAL JOURNAL.

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Vol 1.

OCTOBER, 1878.

No. 10.

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## SHOULD THE OLD COUNTY BOARD CERTIFICATES BE RECALLED ?

It is supposed to be the privilege of the County Boards of Examiners to recall the old County Board Certificates. Whether that privilege should be exercised at an early day is a matter worthy of some consideration.

That the standard of examination is now much higher than formerly is not to be disputed. Under the old *regime* the standard of the profession was as various as the different Boards of the Province. In some counties the examinations were formerly partly oral and partly written, and varied according to the ideas of the different Boards. The result of this was really that there was no standard at all—a first class certificate in one county being no better than a second in another. This variety arose from two circumstances. First, each Board prepared its own questions, and second, there was no uniformity of valuation. Under the new system, much of this diversity has been overcome. By the preparation and valuation of the examination papers by a certain Board, a uniform standard of qualification has been

secured, and it is only from the diversity of the judgment of different Boards of Examiners that any diversity at all can take place in the value of certificates in different counties.

It is now contemplated, we believe, to recall the old County Board certificates, thus obliging all to comply with the new standard. To this we cannot object, in fact, as we believe the tendency would be beneficial both to the interests of education and teachers themselves.

There is no doubt that the impression is fast gaining ground among Boards of Trustees, that a third class certificate under the new system is just as good as the highest certificate given by the old County Boards. If this be true, it follows that, on this score, those holding old County Board certificates, who could pass a third class examination, would lose nothing. But then, there is another consideration. Many certificates were given "until recalled," and the impression was that, so long as the teacher's conduct was becoming, his educational status would not be called in question. We