

# THE ONTARIO TEACHER:

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## THE ANNUAL EXAMINATIONS.

As the time fixed for the annual examination of teachers is drawing near to us, no doubt many are looking forward with considerable anxiety to the dread "ordeal." We would take the liberty of offering a few practical hints to intending candidates.

1st. *Be thoroughly prepared* with your work. It too often happens, that the preparation necessary for examination is postponed until the nervous dread always preceding such a trial is already felt, and the painful consciousness of anticipated trouble takes full possession of the mind. "Then there is hurrying to and fro;" the whole field of labor is surveyed mentally, and there is eager haste to repair the intellectual breaches, and to make rough places smooth. Every subject on the programme needs to be reviewed, and there are only four weeks till examination day. So much *must* be done in gram.mar—geography must not be neglected—the arithmetic needs a little attention, and so between the multiplicity of

tasks, and the limited time at his disposal, the teacher's mind gets confused—fear takes hold upon him, and he sits down to be examined, with a muddled brain and a nervous system entirely disorganized—with what result no one need hesitate to predict.

Our first advice then to every candidate is, be thoroughly prepared. Begin at once. Take up one subject at a time—review it carefully—refresh your memory fully, and then go over the whole programme honestly and faithfully. By this course your self-confidence will be strengthened—your resources will be increased, and the examination itself will be shorn of nearly all its terrors.

2nd. *Keep Cool.*—Nothing so unfits a candidate for the full exercise of all his powers as nervous agitation. By permitting the mind to dwell upon anticipated difficulties, the imagination becomes excited, and what is comparatively easy is prejudged to be exceptionally difficult. Molehills in