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PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.

By R. W. HENEKER, D.C.L.

*To the Teachers' Convention, Sherbrooke, July, 1882.*

The address opened with a few words of welcome and encouragement to the assembled teachers. Attention was drawn to the different ways in which people devoted themselves to the work of education, in Roman Catholic and other Christian communities. The President then advocated the co-operation of religious with secular mental training; and, touching upon the question of superior education, maintained that the work of the State did not stop with the teaching of the three Rs. Taxes were levied from all classes for the benefit of all classes. If the State interfered in education, it should do so in a broad spirit. The rest of the address was occupied with the question of examinations.

I propose on the present occasion to deal with the question of examinations, a question of considerable importance, for we must fall back on the tests of our work if we are to form any true opinion as to whether the path we are pursuing is right or wrong. Now, the question of examinations is no small one. It presents itself under various aspects, but there are two sufficient for to-day in which we may, I think, profitably look at the subject and inquire as to the effects of the system. I allude to Competitive and Qualifying Examinations. The names are sufficiently explanatory in themselves without any necessity for a "rubric" to inform us of their meaning, and I may at once say that I do not refer to ordinary school examinations, but to those which are necessary