

certificate. It seems to us (and we say it with all due deference to the men who at the present time bear the heat and burden of the day) that too much ado is made about having a professional certificate. A person may, by assurance and a good deal of self-possession, capture a first-class certificate, and yet be a poor teacher; while a scholar of the highest attainments, and one who will give the country the very best service as a teacher, may be so constituted as to fail in his endeavour to secure the professional parchment. Instead of the course adopted by the Minister of Education, we would prefer that the principals of the various High Schools be allowed considerable latitude in the matter. They are the parties immediately concerned; and where the responsibility is, there the power to meet it should by all means reside.

Good ought to follow if all our educational authorities would ponder Napoleon's caution to the unthinking lady:—"Madame, respect the burden!" We fear the restriction will deprive the country of the services of some of the best teachers in our Secondary Schools. Graduates and Undergraduates should have an opportunity of helping themselves during their college course, without having to run the gauntlet of First-class Professional Examinations.

## ONTARIO TEACHERS' CONVENTION, 1882.

### HIGH SCHOOL MASTERS' SECTION.

THERE was, we learn, a fair attendance, and, as usual, much interest manifested in the proceedings of this Association. The New Regulations proposed by the Minister, of which the majority of members had heard little and seen nothing until their arrival at the Convention, threw much hesitation and uncertainty into the deliberations. A sense of relief, however, almost amounting to the joyous, was felt at the abolition of the hateful system of "Payment by Results;" and, if members did not feel inclined to welcome the coming, they were thoroughly in accord in speeding the parting, guest.

The proposed changes, we find from the daily press, were generally looked upon as not mere changes, but a revolution. The Minister's new method of distributing the legislative aid to High Schools was received with marked disfavour, and many teachers, representing all classes of schools, feared they would be crippled, if not ruined. The scheme arrived at presupposes that the Minister is determined to carry his own plan into effect, and that all that could be done was to induce him to make such changes as would mitigate in some degree its present defects. The resolution arrived at, we are informed, was merely acquiesced in, many not voting and not approving of the new basis of distributing legislative aid on the amount of teachers' salaries.

Only two papers were read in the Section: the first on "Proposed Changes in the Intermediate," by Mr. G. H. Robinson, Principal Whitby Collegiate Institute; and the second on "Legislative Aid to High Schools," by A. P. Knight, M.A., Principal of Kingston Collegiate Institute. We hope to be able at an early date to lay both of these valuable papers before our readers.

We give below the Resolutions passed by the Section, Mr. McHenry in the chair, and Mr. Robinson acting as Secretary.

### 1. *Re* Departmental and University Examination:—

*Resolved*, That this High School Section call the attention of the Minister of Education to the fact that the Intermediate is generally concurrent with the Pass and Honor Examinations, Junior Matriculation, and Women's Local Examination, Toronto University; and it is the opinion of this Section that it would be better otherwise, as there are a great many High School students who wish to try both Examinations.

### 2. *Re* the Intermediate Programme:—

*Resolved*, That the Secretary be authorized to communicate with the Minister, and represent to him that, in the opinion of this Section, in the Intermediate Programme, History and Geography should be removed from the optional to the obligatory list; and that, inasmuch as it will be difficult for the present for schools to provide properly qualified teachers in Drawing, that Drawing be included in 7 (c), so as to read: "Any two of the following four—French, German,