

dates that form the majority of those who present themselves at the Intermediate Examination. But, while we should recommend the Masters to improve their methods, an examination of the papers that have hitherto been set convinces us that the difficulties attending the present position of the bulk of our teachers of History have not always been taken into account by the examiners.

(4.) We have no space to take up the topic of "Rotation of Examiners." We may say, however, that we are glad to observe that Professor Young has shown his appreciation of the difficulty so far as he and his colleagues are concerned. But the interests of education are paramount; and while the Chairman has been so kind as to show how the examinations have been adapted to the exigencies of the Committee, he might have been ingenuous enough to admit the correctness of the position taken by the Masters. The Minister, it is almost needless to observe, is aware that the Central Committee was created presumably for the benefit of the schools, and not the schools for the benefit of the Central Committee.

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THE following are new regulations anent the Intermediate Examination approved by the Lieut.-Governor in Council, 4th Oct., 1879, as issued by the Education Department:—

The first of these, we can scarcely refrain from saying, is objectionable on the score of indefiniteness, as the time for holding the Intermediate should be fixed definitely, or at least a notice of one clear year should be given before the Examination is held, so that teachers may not be kept in unnecessary suspense on the point.

1. The Intermediate Examination will be

held in each year at the time fixed by the Department.

2. The subjects will be grouped as heretofore, and candidates who obtain forty per cent. of the total in each group, and not less than twenty per cent. in each subject, shall be considered as having passed the examination.

3. Candidates who, in passing the Intermediate Examination, obtain twenty per cent. on each subject, and forty per cent. on the group, will be regarded as having passed the non-professional examination for Third-class certificates. Those who, besides fulfilling the above conditions, obtain fifty per cent. of the whole number of marks attainable, will be considered as having passed the non-professional examination for Second-class certificates, grade B; while those who obtain thirty per cent. on each subject, fifty per cent. on the group, and sixty per cent. of the aggregate marks, will be considered as having passed the non-professional examination for Second-class, grade A.

4. All the answers in each subject are to be read and the values assigned. While the passing is to be determined by these tests, the questions in each subject are to be framed by the examiners, not with reference to any high standard for competitive examinations, but solely to ascertain whether the candidate has acquired a fair knowledge of each subject, and so is qualified or not for the Upper School, or for non-professional standing as a teacher (as the case may be) having regard to his proficiency or deficiency in answering questions reasonably framed for this purpose in each subject.

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The works to be read critically for the Examination of 1880—see the High School programme—are Gray's "Elegy in a Country Churchyard" and Goldsmith's "Traveller."

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A SCHOOL-BOY on the other side of line 450, gave his teacher the other day, this illustrative definition of "responsibility:" "Boys has two buttons for their 'spenders, so's to keep their pants up. When one button comes off, why, there's a good deal of *responsibility* on the other button."

SEE that your pupils understand clearly what you require them to do. Most of all endeavour to understand it yourself.

THE mind of the pupil is to the teacher what the clay is to the potter—a plastic body that may be so fashioned as to become an object of admiration or of insignificance.