

the effects of which they believe will be injurious to the cause of true education, will not be pressed. They would be much gratified if the Government would cancel the Order in Council, so far as it has been referred to in this petition.

(Sgd.) GEORGE BELL, LL.D.,  
Registrar.

Queen's University,  
Kingston, December 11th, 1882.

### HIGH SCHOOL ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS.

A GOOD deal of doubt prevails as to the proper interpretation of the Regulations referring to the reading of the High School Entrance Papers. The following letter addressed by the Minister to the Head Master of one of our Collegiate Institutes will prove interesting to our readers, as it sets the matter at rest :—

TORONTO, 20th December, 1882.

I am directed by the Hon. the Minister of Education to state that he is willing that the Examining Board shall act on the proposals of the High School Inspectors, as stated herewith :

"I. I do not think it necessary or wise for the Examiners to read the remaining papers of candidates who have failed badly in one subject ; they cannot be admitted, and reading their answers entails useless expense.

"II. The most expeditious mode of examining the Reading is to withdraw the candidates individually from some subject for two or three minutes, allowing them an equal expansion of time on the paper.

"It would be well for the Examiners to read all the papers in the case of those who on account of age, etc., might fairly be recommended for admission to a High School."

I have the honour to be, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,  
ALEX. MARLING,  
Secretary.

### A LATIN PERIODICAL.

A LITTLE monthly in the Latin language has been started by Mr. Edgar A. Shumway, teacher of Latin and Greek in the State Normal and Training School at Potsdam, N.Y. *Latine* is an *Ephemeris Latina*, the contents of which are divided into short sections, for the most part dealing with the

best-known and most-studied Latin authors, in the way that teachers use. The system of questions and answers applied to a paragraph from Cicero alternates with some Latin prose, flowered with quotations, wherein an episode of the *Æneid* is recounted. One section gives a passage from Cæsar, with all the verbs put in the indirect statement. Another affords the teacher a choice of simple questions and answers wherewith to keep his class on the stretch, interested and ready to respond. Another (in English) gives a list of points on which information is desired, and suggests various matters to readers. It appears that by means of his little magazine Mr. Shumway has effected among Colleges and High Schools a correspondence in print which he calls *Catena Latina*, and the members of which are *annuli*, or links of the Latin chain. Some interest appears to have been aroused ; members or links are not slow to enrol themselves. The little monthly seems destined to do good. Indeed, anything which makes teacher and pupils feel that they are being sympathized with, that they are not by themselves, but part of a great mass of learners and instructors throughout the country, must tend to give greater zest to their work, and enlarge and harmonize their views of study. The only condition for membership in the *Catena* is the purpose to do some of the work. The *Ephemeris* will cost two dollars a year, and if supported its eight pages will be enlarged.—*N. Y. Critic*.

### "SPECIMENS" FOR CABINETS.

IT is pleasing to know that many schools throughout Ontario are taking a lively interest in the practical study of physical science. Wherever this is the case beginnings have been made in forming cabinets of specimens. Those who find it difficult to procure just what is wanted may not in every instance know where to obtain the rarer, or even the more common, illustrative objects. Much, of course, may be done by means of exchange between schools in various parts of the country ; but to form a complete cabinet, or to procure specimens otherwise unattainable, the best plan is to write to Dr. A. E. Foote, Philadelphia. It is probable that Dr. Foote has the largest collection for sale in the world, and he has the reputation of being a thoroughly satisfactory expert with whom to transact business.