

tem of education" was considered by a committee appointed by the Section, and reported upon. This report, which began by declaring that "it is no longer in the interests of secondary education that a school of this character should be maintained from Provincial funds," and ended by saying, "It is therefore the opinion of this Section that in the general interests of education in this Province Upper Canada College should be closed, and its revenues appropriated for other purposes," was adopted by a vote of eleven to four. Its value will perhaps be somewhat depreciated in the estimation of our readers when they know that the seconder of the motion for the committee has since been appointed Principal of Upper Canada College, and one of the most active men upon it was a candidate for the position.

THE appeals against the results of the recent examination for Second and Third Class Teachers' Certificates amounted to the large number of seven hundred. This is about one-seventh of the total number of candidates who wrote. As each appeal has to be accompanied by a fee, we may conclude that there were seven hundred candidates at least who felt that they had good reason to be dissatisfied with the results of the examination. Who is to blame? Perhaps all concerned—the candidates in not making thorough preparation, their teachers in not training them thoroughly, the examiners in not framing their questions wisely, and the sub-examiners in not reading the candidates' papers carefully. The extent of blame to be attached to the last-named can be fairly estimated, for we learn that about twenty per cent. of the appeals were successful, owing to unwise or careless marking. The examiners are disposed to lay the blame on the teachers as being either careless or incompetent, and both teachers and students are strong in denouncing some of the examiners for the character of the questions they put.

ONE of the issues at the coming parliamentary election in England will be Free Schools. This is the logical sequence of Compulsory Education for the poorer classes.

SIR LYON PLAYFAIR, in his address as President of the British Association at Aberdeen recently, put in a strong plea for greater attention to the education of the people, holding that the position England will take in the future must largely depend upon the scientific education of her people. Dr. Gladstone in one of the sections took the same ground, and urged that systematic scientific instruction should be given in elementary classics to fit boys to enter technical schools.

AN International Educational Congress recently assembled at Havre in France at which 2,500 members were present. It was addressed by Mons. Goblet, the French Minister of Education, who in the course of an interesting speech pointed out the triple character of French education in being compulsory, free, and secular. Amongst the resolutions passed at this Congress was one in favour of industrial training because it develops "activity, observation, perception and intuition." Another urged the establishment of "Apprenticeship Schools to receive the abandoned children, and the waifs and strays of large towns." These resolutions were particularly appropriate in a city which has an excellent technical school in which 250 boys receive not only intellectual training, but are initiated into the arts of metal working and carpentry. In industrial drawing they make designs which they are required to carry out in their work. But this is not all—attached to each superior primary school in Havre is a workshop, in which from one to seven hours per week, according to age, are devoted to manual labour in iron and wood.

"THEORY and Practice of Teaching," by the Rev. Edward Thring, M.A., published by Macmillan and Co., and for sale in this city by Williamson and Co., is not a book that has been "made to order," but contains the spontaneous utterances of a man of cultured intellect and ripe experience. When he chooses to be practical his remarks, expressed in earnest and impressive language, are well worthy of serious study. But unfortunately he is much given to fanciful writing, and as a consequence he spreads over two hundred and sixty-two pages what for practical purposes might very easily have been condensed into a much smaller compass. His experience has evidently been gained in classical teaching, and the work is, therefore, particularly suited to High School teachers. It will well repay perusal to those who can spare the time to pick out the valuable grains of wheat from a good deal of intellectual chaff. One of his best chapters is that entitled "The Lecturer," another good one is that headed "The Teacher," from the concluding words of which we select the following specimen of his style and thought: "A teacher has as his subject life and mind. A teacher's life is in living beings, not in printer's ink. A teacher is an artificer of mind and noble life. Above all, a teacher never lets a single life of those put into his hands be spoiled, or wasted, or flung aside through neglect or scorn. A teacher is the helper and friend of the weak."

CENSOR.

FASHION ought to have more alert scouts out in Europe, and quicker methods of diffusing the new styles here. We are always behind time. Now before we get universally and well settled in the Bond Street walk, the English youth will be walking in an entirely different manner, and we shall be as much out of fashion as a last year's almanac. How do we know now that it is the correct thing for a young man to stand with a thumb in each trousers pocket? It may be as out of date as that old and independent American way of wearing the thumbs in the armholes of the vest. Very likely when we are adepts in the high-shouldered, crooked-elbow, rushing gait, the Pall Mall clerks may be turning out their toes, and sauntering along with a sort of bowie-knife nonchalance caught from Texas ranch life. We need Decorative Young Men's Societies to keep us up to the mark.—Charles Dudley Warner, in *Harper's Magazine*.

HERE AND THERE.

THE *Toronto Globe* has declared against those "undesirable competitors" the Chinese labourers. At the same time our contemporary foresees that Ontario's entire immunity from the presence of large numbers of Chinamen "cannot continue, seeing that the Celestials now engaged in railway work in British Columbia will presently make their way eastward over the line they have helped to construct." It is sufficient that we are to deal with these, and the *Globe* calls upon the Government to protect the country from further Chinese immigration. Coming from the leading Reform organ this declaration is significant in more ways than one. Taken in connection with the extremely cautious tone adopted in treating of Quebec politics, of Catholic assertiveness, of the independence cry, of our commercial relations with the United States, of the woman's rights question, of the Home Rule agitation in England—it is at least suggestive of the idea that "opportunism" will be the Grit slogan at the next Dominion election: that the Party led by Mr. Blake is not above borrowing the tactics of his clever opponent in order to obtain the sweets of office. It remains to be seen whether this policy contains the elements of success. So far as the *Globe's* declaration on the Chinese question is concerned it must disappoint a large section of advanced members of the Party. The only possible objection to the Chinese workman is that he labours for a small wage. The same fault has been found with the Irishman, the Frenchman, and the German. The difference is merely one of degree. All the enactments of all protective governments will fail to suspend the economic law which regulates wages, and without that John Chinaman will obtain employment so long as his greatest offence is selling his labour cheaply. If he is not permitted to assist in the production of cheap articles here, why he must go over to those whose competition will have the effect of bringing down all wages in the countries which have refused to receive the child of the sun. Better to have him working with us than for our commercial rivals.

THE *Globe* and the *Montreal Star* have set an example which we may be permitted to hope will soon be followed by other leading Canadian dailies. Our enterprising contemporaries now receive important English news direct by cable instead of relying upon the coloured "specials" supplied by the anti-British *New York Herald*. It remains to be seen if the right man is at the other end of the wire; if so, much confusion will be avoided, and the bungling home manufacturers of foreign news will find their occupation gone.

WE note with pleasure that the Rev. Principal Grant has a paper in the current *Century* on the Canadian Pacific Railway. Mr. Grant is nothing if he is not loyal, and an enthusiast at that. Nothing less, therefore, could be expected in such a sketch than a panegyric upon the Dominion and its colossal railway enterprise; but with discontent in the air on every side—with the North-West just emerged from rebellion and the Maritime Provinces threatening secession, with Quebec becoming daily stronger and hourly more anti-British—it is strange to find Mr. Grant assuring our neighbours that the Canadian Pacific Railway was the one thing lacking to make us a nation, and that the completion of a single line of steel rails operating across the continent is by a touch to transform a sparsely-populated semi-arctic region into the prosperous abiding-place of fifty millions of people. Meanwhile, our labour councils demand that Chinese workmen shall be forbidden to develop the country in the East, and that European immigrants shall be discouraged from landing in the West.

IN the eyes of Ontario Liberals, Sir John Macdonald's unpardonable sin is his dalliance with Quebec Bleus. Party corruption and administrative extravagance serve very well to ring the changes upon during election campaigns, and in the big gooseberry season; but that "our friend the enemy" is made virtually master of Parliament, in the same way as Parnell hopes to hold the balance in British affairs, is gall and wormwood to the true Grit. The suggestion, therefore, made by a contemporary, that Mr. Blake is equally culpable with Sir John in this matter, is one calculated to move the nether depths of Gritism. Unfortunately, if not altogether true, it is true in part. If the Opposition leader had not coquetted with the Bleus, they would not dare to have been so insolent in their demands of the Premier—they would have grumbly accepted less, had they not believed it possible to make terms with the party leader who was waiting to step into Sir John's shoes. Fortunately Mr. Blake is not a diplomat, and is not likely to acquire power by political corruption so long as a prince of corruptionists holds the reins. "Codlin's the friend, not Short," says Mr. Blake to the French Tories in a stage whisper which Short is not slow to understand and act upon.

IT ought not to be difficult to settle the dispute between allopathic and homœopathic vaccinationists. Either the human system can be inoculated with vaccine *via* the stomach in such a way as to avoid small-pox or it cannot, nor does it appear to the lay mind that elaborate experiment is necessary to set the matter at rest. The onus of proof naturally lies with the homœopathists, whose theory apparently lacks demonstration, whilst allopathic vaccination is known to have saved thousands of lives. The latter method is no doubt attended with risks; the "antis" have reason in protesting that many persons have been physically ruined by the introduction of impure vaccine into their systems, and in complaining that the law places them practically at the mercy of careless or incompetent surgeons.