

is proposed, shall appoint as examiners gentlemen of approved fitness who are not professors in Theological Colleges, but who are members of the church. The subjects for the proposed entrance examination are Latin, Greek (classical and New Testament) Mathematics, logic and Psychology, Ethics, English Literature and Composition, Hebrew, Bible Knowledge and Shorter Catechism. The possession of a University degree shall not entitle the holder thereof to exemption from examination. The Exit examination subjects suggested are Bible Knowledge, Shorter Catechism and Confession of Faith, which three shall be reckoned as one subject; English Composition, Theology (Systematic and Biblical); Hebrew and Old Testament Criticism and Exegesis; New Testament Criticism and Exegesis; Apologetics, Church History, Church Government and Homiletics. In the Exit Examination candidates may take any four subjects at one time and the other subjects at another time.

The object of the overture is clearly the maintaining of a good standard at the Colleges, and as such to be welcomed. The publication of the overture in our columns will enable the Church to discuss the whole question in all its bearings, and as it will come up before the Synod there will be ample opportunity to elicit the mind of the church on the subject. Every well considered step to elevate the scholarship of the ministry will be generally supported and the proposition made by the Guelph Presbytery seems to be practicable and in the right direction.

**SABBATH OBSERVANCE.**

**T**HE appeal to the electors referred to by us last week has been issued by the Alliance. Briefly it is as follows:—

What is prohibited by the Lord's Day act as it stands is the doing of any wordly labor, business or work of ordinary employment. From this prohibition there is an exception in the following words:—"Conveying travellers or her Majesty's mail by land or by water, selling drugs and medicines and other works of necessity and works of charity only excepted."

The law as thus stated, which has been in force for fifty-three years, the Alliance did not seek to alter, but only sought to extend its application in the two following respects:—

- (1) That the law be not restricted to certain named classes, as had been held by our courts, but be made applicable to the whole community.
- (2) That corporations be not exempted from the act, as had been decided by the courts, but be made subject to the same law to which individuals are amenable.

The purpose of these amendments was to make the act what, as is generally acknowledged, the Legislature originally intended it to be.

The proposals thus made the Government has distinctly approved as reasonable, and the entire Legislature has also adopted the principles underlying the bill by reading it a second time without division.

The Alliance also asked that the Government take steps to procure from the courts an interpretation of the words "conveying travellers."

While the principles advocated by the Alliance have thus met with very general approval, it is of the utmost consequence to the whole future of the Lord's Day in this county that the people of Ontario should now elect a House prepared to carry those principles into practical effect. Every candidate therefore in every constituency should be asked to declare his intention to do his part in securing the most perfect possible legislation for the protection of the Lord's Day, and in particular his pro-

mise to support the two amendments requested by the Alliance.

Such action will very greatly strengthen the position of those seeking to defend this greatest of our national institutions against the attacks so persistently made upon it, for it should be remembered that in this contest the Alliance are not the aggressors. The object aimed at, however, can only be attained by means of active interest and vigorous effort in every constituency.

The Alliance would therefore earnestly urge the friends of the Lord's Day throughout all the constituencies in Ontario to use their utmost endeavors in order that all candidates for the Legislature shall be pledged to support the amendments to the Lord's Day act above mentioned.

**SCHEMES OF THE CHURCH.**

The Rev. Dr. Warden, Treasurer and General Agent of the Church, sends us the following comparative statement of receipts from the beginning of the ecclesiastical year, 1st May, to January 31st, 1897 and 1898.

	1897.	1898.
Home Missions.....	\$31,283.61	\$10,882.00
Augmentation.....	6,926.16	8,358.48
Foreign Missions.....	48,471.27*	48,931.76*
French Evangelization.....	10,316.10	8,727.97
Pointe-aux-Trembles.....	3,851.84	3,758.86
Widows and Orphans.....	2,128.55	2,174.57
Aged and Infirm Ministers.....	2,313.28	2,766.85
Assembly Fund.....	2,763.59	2,611.01
Knox College.....	2,960.97	2,872.92
Queen's College.....	1,239.50	1,386.45
Presbyterian College, Montreal.....	475.41	529.33
Manitoba College.....	1,920.60	1,828.88

\*This includes contributions from the W.F.M.S.

Special attention is called to the fact that the Church year now terminates upon the 31st, March, a month earlier than formerly. This has to be borne in mind in connection with the foregoing statement.

**THE KLONDIKE MISSION.**

**R**EV. Dr. Cochrane sends an interesting letter just to his hand from Rev. Andrew S. Grant, the last appointed missionary to the Klondike. Mr. Grant reports his departure from Vancouver for the north and his prospects of meeting Mr. Dickie who is still at Skaguay.

There is a great deal of bad blood, says Mr. Grant, among Canadians over the conduct of Americans on questions of customs, trade, and their aggressive policy in claiming portions of land in British Territory. The Americans are determined to make Dyea and Skaguay the popular route into Klondike "From what I can learn the Stikeen route will be open in February, and altho' the distances from Fort Wrangle to Fort Selkirk is much greater than from Skaguay is, yet the former way is more accessible. The rush is on already. The "City of Seattle" left Vancouver last week with over 600 passengers, many of them the off-scourings of the republic. On board the "Danube" we have about 400, many of them Americans of the same type. I met a man in Vancouver who has over 2000 passengers booked from Chicago via Stikeen route for Klondike. They are to be out-fitted at Vancouver so as to evade customs duty. Everything is Klondike. The classes of people going in are of such a mixed multitude, the majority so low down in the scale of being, that it is going to make our work very difficult. We must push the work with vigor, in faith, since, He who sends us has all power in Heaven and on Earth, and His word is quick and powerful. I have been used of God all the way in this work, and beyond my expectations, already permanent work has been done. I expect that my knowledge of the healing art will give me access to many a man."

ANDREW S. GRANT.