

lists. The church should educate and oversee layworkers. There are, for instance, evangelists travelling our own country, at the present time, who are responsible to no church or organization, and yet they do not fail to take up collections, of which they are not required to give an account, either as to the amount raised or as to how it is expended. If Principal Nero had not been found out, in the space of a year's time he would have had a handsome salary; and so evangelists, when they discover that itinerant preaching is more pleasant and easier than pastoral and ministerial work in some quiet village or district, and especially when it is found to pay much better, are liable to lean more to the human than to the spiritual tendencies of their nature. For the good of Christianity and the church this matter of itinerant preaching ought to be duly considered.

THE Education Department and some members of the Senate of Toronto University have concocted a scheme for holding the examinations for first and second class teachers and for matriculation at the same places and times. This is another illustration of the honest desire for confederation that fills the souls of those gentlemen. They calmly proposed that Queen's should sacrifice its buildings, grounds, old friends, old associations, present sources of revenue, Royal Charter, local convenience, in order to make a new beginning, at its own expense, in the year one, in the city of Toronto, for the greater advantage presumably of Eastern Ontario. Of course they expected our assent to this charming proposal. But, when a practical step is to be taken in the way of having a common Matriculation and Teachers Examination, they adopt our principle of holding it at different centres; but they make no proposal that the different universities should be represented, probably because they have some idea that such a pro-

posal could be accepted by rational men. It is a matter of no consequence to Queen's what becomes of the present proposal, because acting on the principle that examinations are necessary evils, and that they should not be multiplied unnecessarily, the Senate has always accepted the examinations of sister universities; and since one of its members was placed on the Central Committee of the Education Department — has accepted its certificates also *pro tanto*. But why does not the Education Department form a committee that would fairly represent the different universities, and give to that committee the charge of an abutment or outgoing examination from the High Schools that would be equivalent to matriculation, and that could be accepted by the universities? If that were done, it could easily be arranged that honours and scholarships in all the universities could be awarded on the results of that examination. The papers could be classified according to the college that the examinees signified their intention of attending; or what would be still better, all the matriculation scholarships of all the colleges might be thrown open to all competitors, provided only that the successful candidates did actually attend a recognised college. Better still, all matriculation scholarships might be abolished. Since writing the above the Minister of Education has said in the House that he is willing to give the same facilities to the other universities that he has given to Toronto, and that he is desirous that all the universities of Ontario should agree upon a common matriculation. This is well; but he might go further and take some steps towards carrying out his desire. Let him do so, and we shall see who are opposed to the suggested reform. If, in connection with such a scheme, all scholarships connected with matriculation were abolished, he would be entitled to the name of reformer.