

GULLIBLE CANDIDATES AND BOGUS (?) EXAMINATION PAPERS.

THE *Globe* of Wednesday, June 29th, gave a fully-detailed account of certain Public School Examination-Paper Frauds, lately exposed in the Brantford Police Court. It appears that a man of good address, among whose many *aliases* was that of Tooke, has been operating throughout the Province of Ontario by addressing letters to the candidates for Public School certificates, offering for a sum of money paid "in confidence," to forward copies of the Examination Papers for the forthcoming Second Class Examination. In many cases, in various towns and villages throughout the Province, dishonest and incompetent aspirants to the teaching profession were found who sent the money, and received examination papers of some sort in return. The *Globe* had a leading article on the subject, in which it pointed out the fact that young men or young women, capable of the fraudulent act of trying to get surreptitious papers, were quite unfit, morally and intellectually, to fill the office of Public School teacher.

The cheat who was the leading figure in this transaction elected to be tried summarily by the magistrate, which of course was his wisest plan. He got off with a slight punishment; the whole affair occupying a corner in the *Globe* of the issue referred to, and might easily be soon forgotten. But we do not think it ought to be forgotten, and therefore in the interest of the honest, hardworking, and conscientious candidates, to whom alone this educational serial is addressed, we intend to urge on the serious atten-

tion of our readers some important practical conclusions from this very disgraceful circumstance.

The first of these is the humiliating one that there exists a certain element of utter demoralisation and incompetence among those who propose to become school teachers. This is proved by the fact that the confidence man, "Tooke," could reap so rich a harvest by the sale of fraudulent or fraudulently-obtained examination papers through the length and breadth of Ontario.

Secondly, the young men and young women who have been guilty of this fraud ought not to be allowed to go prosperously on the path to the teaching profession. To allow this would be grossly unjust to the honest candidates. It would also be grossly unjust to the parents and children of the Province. We demand that the names of all Mr. Tooke's correspondents be published, though not in the newspapers, and that copies of the list be sent to the several Provincial School Inspectors. We demand, further, that Mr. Tooke's real name, whatever it may be, shall be published also, but *in* the public prints. We are told by the *Globe* that he is the son of a clergyman in Ontario, and that his name is withheld out of deference to his parents. Now, we fail to see why the name of a thief, who is the son of a clergyman, should be thus delicately dealt with, any more than if he were the son of a Public School teacher, or of a farmer, or of a journalist. To withhold the name of this "son of a clergyman in Ontario," is unfair to