

defended through thick and thin the so-called system of "Payment by Results?" As to the programme, we have before us as we write a series of articles which were published at the time the late one appeared, in which the writer of this article urged the very objections which Mr. Crooks now admits to be correct. Time has, indeed, its revenges.

THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND THE PRINCIPAL OF U. C. C.

WITH a reticence which in the Minister is highly commendable, the more so as reticence is not his forte, he has not favoured the public with the names of the members of the Central Committee, nor have the names of the different examiners appeared in the papers. We do not, therefore, care to take up now some matters with which we propose to deal hereafter. We may say, however, that there is known to be a lack of the practical element, which, indeed, the character of some of the examination papers clearly shows. There is one member, however, on the Committee to whose presence we, in the meantime, most decidedly object. We refer to the Principal of Upper Canada College. Other objections might be urged, but we shall now confine ourselves to two. It is well understood that no person should set papers for the "Intermediate" who has pupils to be examined in them. The "Intermediate" has been adopted as the entrance test by the Medical Council and some other societies. It is, therefore, improper for Mr. Buchan to hold this position so long as he has charge of a school from which there may be, if there has not been, candidates for the "Intermediate."

But there is another, and a still stronger objection. It is well known that the proposed scheme for the distribution of the Government Grant to High Schools is directed chiefly against the largest schools. Nominally, the change proposed is intended to gratify the jealous feelings of those teachers who have had grievances against one or two of the Collegiate Institutes, whose masters have not had, we must admit, a proper re-

gard for the dignity of their profession or the rights of other institutions. It must be remembered, however, in this connection, that it is the deliberate intention of the Minister to divert, if possible, to his moribund College, the provincial attendance which is now the strength of some of our Institutes and our best High Schools. Upper Canada College with its annual endowment of \$22,000 he means to coddle still further, by destroying, if possible, the provincial character which some of our Institutes and High Schools now possess, and which, in spite of him, they will continue to possess. That we have not misrepresented Mr. Crooks's position, every one who has read his public utterances will admit. Even Dr. McLellan, who has hitherto delighted to pose as the champion of provincial schools, endorses the continued existence of Upper Canada College. We quote his words—at present they are suggestive. The italics are ours: "*Under more economical management, with an improved system of scholarships, the advantages of the College would be open to any boy who has shown industry, perseverance and ability in any LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL, and in this way it would afford equality of opportunity to the child of the poor as of the rich, which is the grand principle of our whole system.*" There could then be no ground for the outcry against the College on this account; but if examined there is no just ground for it!! The Public Schools, High Schools, and Collegiate Institutes are open to all, and equally accessible to the son of the lowliest as of the rich, and the chief burden of supporting them falls on those who are well off, and in proportion to the assessable amount of their property, whether they actually take advantage of the schools or not." Who wouldn't be a Government official!

But this is not extraordinary. Dr. McLellan's motives are never far to seek. Mr. Buchan also, who, sixteen years ago, was one of the two High School Masters who then conducted the attack on the College, and who, not so many years ago, was well known to be still opposed to its existence, is now the Head Master of the College he once decried.