

THE next examination for admission to High Schools will be held on the last two days of the High School session, Thursday and Friday, the 2nd and 3rd of July. The examination in the non-professional subjects for Second and Third Class teachers' certificates will begin on the Monday following; that for First Class, grade C, on Wednesday, the 15th of July, and for grades A and B on Thursday, the 23rd of July. The professional examination of candidates for First Class Certificates will be held on Wednesday, the 22nd of July.

THE Minister of Education again proposes to have summer classes in Drawing for the benefit of teachers who can only attend during the holidays, and he permits even those who do not attend these classes to come up for examination. We would have more confidence in the results to be attained if the scheme of lessons covered less ground, and were more thorough in its character. It is absurd to suppose that skill in the various kinds of drawing sufficient to be made available in the school-room for the purpose of teaching the subject can be acquired in so short a course.

SIR WILLIAM DAWSON has announced the plan of applying the liberal endowment of Mr. Donald Smith for the higher education of women in connection with McGill University. The work will be entirely distinct from that of the male sex. There will be separate classes for the women, also separate entrances, waiting-rooms and retiring-rooms, under the supervision of a lady. All necessary allowance will be made for the different habitudes of their sexes, and women will have, by the proposed arrangement, facilities for asking and answering questions in the presence of students of their own sex alone. The teachers, however, will be the same for both sexes, as will also the courses of study, and the examinations.

SOME years ago a benevolent and highly-educated New England lady, named Miss Huntington, established what she called a Kitchen Garden in New York, for the training in household duties of neglected and destitute children. Her plan is an adaptation of that of Froebel's Kindergarten, but is of a more practical nature. Little girls of the poorest class, under the guise of play and by means of toys, are taught how to make a fire, the best way of making a bed, how to wash, hang out and fold clothes, to wash and dry dishes, to scrub the table, to open the door for visitors, and the other numerous duties that domestic servants or wives of working-men have to perform. Miss Huntington's plan has been successful, and has been imitated in other cities. It is now proposed by the ladies who form the North Toronto Women's Christian Temperance Union to establish a similar institution in Toronto. They propose to assume the management and pay the expenses of working the Kitchen Garden, while the ladies of the Relief Society will provide and clothe the scholars. If such a scheme aims at no other result than to provide a supply of efficient, intelligent and upright domestic servants it deserves commendation and support. Already in the Girls' and Orphans' Homes efforts have been made in this direction, but we suppose the proposed Kitchen Garden is intended to reach that class of children who live with their parents.

THE teacher's vocation has risen greatly in the estimation of the public during the last few years, and deservedly so. The class of teachers who are now responsible for training the coming generation is far superior to that found in charge of schools half a century ago. Of course there are, and there always will be, mere hirelings amongst them. But we will find a large number who have a high sense of the responsibility of their position. We have been led to these remarks by a letter received from an esteemed correspondent in charge of a country school, who is certainly one of the good shepherds. In it the following remarks occur:—"I am still in the old place, working away without much 'up or down.' Striving to do as best I can, and realizing more than I have ever done before the high trust and deep and enduring responsibilities connected with teaching even a common school. As life's shadows lengthen towards the rising sun, and the face is turned towards the setting, I come to realize more and more that the field I occupy is long enough and broad enough for all the energy of heart and mind I am capable of concentrating on it."

THE cry in England against over-pressure in schools is both loud and long. THE WEEK some months ago directed attention to the matter in some remarks upon a report upon the subject by Dr. Crichton Browne, in which he asserts the prevalence of the evil. His report was criticized with a good deal of force by Mr. Fitch, the reputed author of Mr. Mundella's new code for the government of elementary schools. The discussion is still vigorously kept up by those interested in education, especially the teachers, many of whom assert that the evil prevails to an alarming extent, and that it is engendered by the vicious system of "payment by results." At the Easter Conference of Elementary Teachers at Norwich it was made a prominent subject in the President's inaugural address, and at a subsequent Conference held in Manchester on "Education under Healthy Conditions" it was a leading subject of discussion. There is no doubt that where a teacher's position depends upon the number he can successfully pass at the Inspector's examination, his teaching will, to a large extent, aim at that result.

In connection with this subject the London School Board have decided not to require home lessons from those children whose parents object to them or whose health is delicate.

CENSOR.

THE first railway introduced into Hindoostan did not astonish the natives. But it produced a religious and mystical emotion. They prayed to the goddess "Vapor" to take pity on them, and offered garlands of flowers and melted butter. They then entered the carriages, on which the notice was posted up in English and Hindoostani: "Those gentlemen who would wish to take first or second-class tickets, must have a shirt."

## HERE AND THERE.

THE extraordinary sittings of the Ottawa House appear to have ended, as all trials of physical endurance do end, in a series of undignified exhibitions which will certainly not tend to elevate Dominion legislators in the eyes of the country or the world. Be the responsibility for these proceedings with whom it may, the result is to bring Parliamentary discussion to a level with the degrading go-as-you-please or "wobbling" contests which obtained a transient popularity in the pedestrian world.

TORONTO has been fortunate of late in the exhibition of pictures of a very high degree of merit. First there was the painting by Gabriel Max, "The Raising of Jairus' Daughter," kindly lent by Mr. Drummond, of Montreal, for this purpose; then two pictures recently brought to the city by Mrs. A. Cameron were placed within the reach of the art-loving public; and now we have on free exhibition Calvert's large picture "Une Fleur de la Plage," from the Paris Salon of 1883. The first impression given by this picture is, that there is not sufficient interest to justify so large a canvas. A careful study, however, soon brings the observer into perfect accord with the principal object of interest, a beautiful figure of a young girl who is plucking a yellow flower growing on a sandy shore, the wide expanse of ocean stretching away to the horizon beyond. The tide is low, and one can feel the motion of the limpid waves breaking peacefully on the distant strand. The pose and drawing of the figure are excellent, the face is in profile, the texture and colour of the flesh are well rendered. The picture, while not revelling in a broad flood of sunlight, is without the dull leaden gray which so often takes its place; it is filled with bright cheerful light, and is perfectly harmonious both in colour and feeling.

THE Trustees of the Metropolitan Methodist Church, Toronto, have just secured for the walls of their Board Room a portrait of the late Rev. Dr. Punshon, founder of the church. It is a life-size bust portrait in oil, by J. W. L. Foster, of Toronto. It is painted in his best style. He has caught the subtle play of countenance and vigorous manner that belonged pre-eminently to Mr. Punshon. Those who knew this great divine most intimately are loudest in their praises of the portrait. The likeness has, we understand, been compiled by Mr. Foster from photographs.

A MEETING of the Liberal Temperance Association will be held this (Thursday) evening at 8 o'clock in Occident Hall, Toronto, Mr. Goldwin Smith in the chair.

THERE were thirty-three failures in Canada reported to Bradstreet's during the past week, against thirty in the preceding week, and twenty, twenty and nineteen in the corresponding weeks of 1884, 1883 and 1882 respectively. In the United States there were 197 failures during the week as compared with 167 in the preceding week, and with 132, 149 and 118 respectively in the corresponding weeks of 1884, 1883 and 1882. About 86 per cent. were those of small traders whose capital was less than \$5,000.

IT may appear strange to state that the truth about our troops' encounters with the rebels will not be known until the arrival of English papers containing "own correspondents' details, but it is nevertheless the fact.

IT may be well to remind our readers once more that all cable reports of Anglo-Russian difficulties must be read with great suspicion. The Canadian journals purchase their English news from New York; the London representatives of New York papers almost invariably forward that view of each incident in which England appears to the least advantage. This to please their Irish readers.

THE gentlemen who are bestirring themselves in this country in behalf of what they are pleased to term "Imperial Federation"—will some person kindly explain what the high-sounding phrase means?—might with profit note that the proposal receives scant courtesy from the English press. The *Weekly Dispatch* says: "Lord Wolseley has already declared that only twenty-five per cent. of the so-called Canadian *voyageurs* were efficient boatmen. The remainder were a nondescript rabble of loafers attracted by the high wages. Sir Henry Parkes, one of the oldest and most experienced of Australian statesmen, exposes the system of organized blackmail, by which employes of the railways were assessed after the worst methods of machine politicians in America for forced contributions to the so-called 'voluntary' Patriotic Fund. Even the humblest servants of the company were ordered to give a week's pay to help in what Sir Henry styles 'this wretched military travesty.'"

WE are not all sufficiently cynical to agree with the epigram, "Patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel." Indeed, the average good citizen is a thoroughly loyal man—always promising that he is loyal according to his lights. It is somewhat singular, then, to note the cool assurance with which the modern Tory assumes a monopoly of patriotism for his own party. One writer has called this characteristic "an arrogant impertinence," and though the epithet may be strong, there is more truth than poetry in it. Every person who dares, for instance, to criticize the policy of Sir John Macdonald is "disloyal," traduces Canada, is in league with the rebels. Because Mr. Gladstone, whose personal honour is unsullied, and who has devoted a lifetime to his country, pursues a course which runs