

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE CLASSICAL QUESTION.—We give in the present number the remainder of Mr. Boodle's ably written paper on the Classics in the Province of Quebec. The well known Classical attainments of the writer give special interest to his statement in reference to the general question. The strictures upon the intentions of the Protestant Committee in reference to the position of the Classics in our Academies seem to be rather wide of the mark if we are to take the course of study recently authorized as a fair expression of the views of the Committee. In this connection we desire to draw attention to a pamphlet containing the Inaugural Address of Dr. Hofmann, delivered in 1880 on assuming the Rectorship of the University of Berlin. This address, which has excited a great deal of interest in Germany, and has attracted attention on this continent has been recently translated and published by Ginn, Heath & Co., Boston. The pamphlet probably contains the most complete and important collection of evidence ever presented on this question.

The address deals chiefly with the question of dividing the great philosophical Faculty of the German Universities and of putting in its place one Faculty of Letters and one of Mathematics and Physical and Natural Sciences. It owes, however, its general interest mainly to the discussion of another question, that of admitting students to the Universities from the Realschule, or Science School, where they get little Latin and no Greek, as well as from the Gymnasium, or regular Classical School.

The Minister of Public Instruction of Germany addressed a note to the various Universities in Prussia. in 1869, asking their opinion upon the question. Notwithstanding the unfavorable nature of the replies received, a decree was issued in the following year directing that young men who had received their training in the Realschule should be admitted to the Universities. After an experiment of ten years we have a unanimous opinion of the Philosophical Faculty of Berlin, the foremost University of Germany. re-affirming the emphatic condemnation of the change which was expressed by the Faculty when proposed. It is a remarkable fact that the Professors of Natural Sciences and Modern Languages are very emphatic in their preference for students prepared in the Gymnasium. Dr. Hofmann. himself a Professor of Chemistry, sums up the results of the investigation as follows: "that the Realschule of the first rank, however