

EDITORIAL NOTES.

BOUND copies of *THE MONTHLY* for the last eleven years can be obtained by applying to Box 2675, Toronto.

We have pleasure in referring our readers to the advertisement of Houghton, Mifflin & Co. on another page of *THE MONTHLY*. There are few American firms who publish books more suitable for a teacher's library, and for the reading of educated people generally.

It is gratifying when friends take the trouble of greeting us, as they often do, with kind words, but when, with the gracious word the small sum required for the yearly payment of this magazine is enclosed, nothing can be more satisfactory. We thank all such. Will our subscribers be good enough to renew and forward promptly all the money necessary to balance accounts?

THE CURRICULUM.

FOLLOWING its usual practice, the Senate of the University of Toronto has entered upon the preparation of the curriculum for the years 1891-6. The first draft of the work for the next five years is ready, and has been sent to all the institutions more immediately concerned. Secondary schools of all kinds and grades are to be communicated with, and also all colleges and universities. No one class is more interested in the curriculum than the masters in our High Schools. We hope that they will not be backward in forwarding to the Registrar whatever suggestions may appear to them likely to increase the acceptability of the prescribed work. All other universities in our

Province have now an opportunity of influencing in the right direction the education of the country; for we understand that the Senate has also asked their co-operation in making this the best course of reading; we have ever had in our preparatory schools. These things are becoming, and it is only to be expected, that all our educators will avail themselves of the opportunity to show their freedom from local influences and partisan politics.

SEPARATE SCHOOLS.

THE proposal to abolish the Separate Schools in the Province of Manitoba has again brought under active discussion the important question, What shall the character of our Public Schools be? Shall the teaching in these schools be purely secular? if there can be such teaching? or shall it be Christian? What people who ask for secular schools mean, may be seen at the present day in France. In the Public Schools there the textbooks used have been so prepared that the name of God cannot be found in them, the name of the Saviour is carefully eliminated, and not only so, but the name must not be used or referred to. Good people in Ontario say to us, "France is an extreme case, common sense people will never go to such extremes, especially with us." We beg to remind such friends, "When the steed is stolen lock the stable door."

Such is the present fruit of secular education logically carried out; what the fruit will be in the lives of the people of France a generation or two hereafter only time will show. Tourists tell us that they felt degraded by having the current French literature in their pockets as they passed through