

handling of a foreign tongue. The present school is described as teaching "an abstract and subtle *dogmatik*," which destroys all the pupil's enjoyment in the great literature of the past.

But while the German state critic fears that each section of classical study may be driven too far by the specialists, and so rendered too minute and various for any ordinary pupil's comprehension, the danger of history or archæology being neglected does not strike him as pressing. In our schools we must rather watch that the exclusive teaching of grammar and composition does not extrude altogether the human and practical, nay even the æsthetic, side of classics; for we have frequent specimens of men who are formally elegant scholars, and who shudder at a false tense or a false quantity, but are at the same time mere children in questions of history or literary criticism, and borrow their opinions from the nearest authority.

The whole document is of great importance, and the meeting by the rectors to discuss it will no doubt be of the highest interest.

J. P. MAHAFFY, in the *Athenæum*.

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### RECENT EVENTS.

*The Faculty of Applied Science of McGill University.*—About ten years have elapsed since the organization of the Engineering School of McGill University as a Faculty of Applied Science. In that time it has steadily advanced in its number of students and means and appliances of education. At the recent meeting of the Corporation of the University it was announced that the number of students had reached fifty-one. Of these the greater part are in the course of Civil Engineering, but the proportion taking the courses of Mining Engineering, Mechanical Engineering and Practical Chemistry is increasing. In all these professions the graduates of the school appear readily to find employment, and several of them have risen to important positions.

*Protestant Board of School Commissioners.*—The monthly meeting of this Board was held on the 16th November. The reports of school attendance for October were laid on the table, showing a total enrolment of 3,631 pupils, of whom 3,369, nearly 93 per cent., were in daily attendance. Mr. G. W. Stephens, M.P.P. was requested to preside at the Teachers' Conference to be held on the 7th of December. A draft of amended regulations and of limitables dividing the common school curriculum into seven years instead of six, was submitted by a Committee. The scheme was approved in principle, but detailed examinations were deferred