

inasmuch as it affords the best means astronomers possess of determining the sun's parallax, and consequently the dimensions of the planetary system. The cost of an astronomical telescope is not very great and the Province of Ontario should have one in connection with the University. Mr. Carpmael, the director of the Meteorological Observatory, is a Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society and a distinguished graduate of Cambridge University, and is eminently qualified to direct an astronomical observatory. As this is purely an educational undertaking it should be done at the expense of the Province. The Local Government of Quebec supports a well equipped observatory at McGill University; the Colony of Victoria, Australia, has a grand one, while almost every State in the American Union has its well equipped observatory. Ontario has none, and is doing nothing for the advancement of astronomical science. We hope to see the Province placed in a creditable light in this respect before the scientific world.

With the resumption of the scholastic year, we have a resumption of the strenuous exertions of certain head masters to attract students by highly coloured advertisements and elaborate school prospectuses. Wood cuts and tinted paper are now at a premium. Imposing edifices rear their classic fronts to the skies. The old royal road to learning has given place to the modern cricket field. A singular harmony is found to exist between conic sections and cheap board. We do not intend to find fault with all such efforts to draw, though it may be that the inducements held out are like the paper on which they appear—*coleur de rose*. We do object, however, to the style of advertising that is practised by one head master who has the effrontery to

institute comparisons between his own school and other Collegiate Institutes, of course, to the disparagement of the latter. This contemptible artifice carries with it its own condemnation. With reference to the Intermediate or other Departmental examinations such a course of conduct would seem at best like that of a fortunate speculator taunting his unlucky brethren with their losses. It is also matter for question how far the successes of ex-pupils should be referred to in school records. If these successes are expressly mentioned as those of ex-pupils, very grave objections cannot perhaps be urged against this practice, though even then there should be some limit to it, as will be evident through the recent report of Upper Canada College. Colonel Dennison, after more than a quarter of a century's absence, was marshalled into line with the juveniles and made to contribute glory to the institution from his being awarded the Emperor of Russia's prize for a work on cavalry tactics. On this occasion, the Principal was a better tactician than the Colonel. But when we find the honors and scholarships won by pupils and ex-pupils summed up together in such a way as to convey the impression that all were awarded to pupils direct from the school, we cannot too severely condemn such a deception on the public, and it is to be regretted that any head master should ever have given occasion for making such strictures possible.

GOODWIN'S GREEK GRAMMAR.—(*Ginn & Heath, Boston.*)—For class instruction it has no equal. All the necessary facts and principles of the Greek language are stated and illustrated so *plainly and clearly*, yet in so *brief* a compass, that students will find everything easy of comprehension and application, and be relieved from the unnecessary detail found in many school grammars.