

tory, and Latin Grammar. The weak point in all the Academies is unquestionably the Classics—especially the Greek. I fear it is the weak point with some of the teachers themselves, and hence they do not encourage their pupils to cultivate the Classics. In the 21 Academies inspected this year, there were in all 28 pupils in Greek, and in 13 of these Academies there was no Greek being taught. If the Classics are to be taught with any degree of efficiency or advantage in our Academies, I respectfully submit to this Committee the necessity of at once raising the standard of classical qualification in those holding Academy Diplomas, whether from the McGill Normal School or the Boards of Examiners.

It might be of advantage to have occasionally an Inspection, in which no written examinations would be given, in order that the Inspectors may have an opportunity of seeing the teaching, examining the classification and general administration of each school, and of offering to the teachers such suggestions and hints as the circumstances may seem to demand.

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### THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

Southampton is a pleasant place to spend a week in. The picturesque aspect of the town itself, especially of its long and handsome High Street, the beauty of its surroundings, standing as it does within the fork formed by the bright broad waters of the Itchen and the Test, with richly wooded banks on the other side of either, its numerous breathing spaces in the shape of large and well-kept greens, besides a public garden, and the so-called common, which is really a well-planted park, give sweetness to the air and rest to the weary mind. The attendance at the meeting has been fair, the accommodation sufficient, and the arrangements excellent. The weakest point, perhaps, was the skating rink, the place assigned for the President's address and the evening lectures. It is too low in the roof to afford the grand *coup d'œil* to which people are accustomed at the opening meeting; and considering that it only seats about 1,200 persons, the platform included, it requires an undue exertion of the voice to fill it.

Dr. Siemen's address was, like his own career, a happy combination of science and practice. No man can speak with