

CLASSICAL STUDIES.

Signs are not wanting that a decided reaction is taking place on this continent in favor of classical education. Princeton took the lead and the other great colleges are following that great conservative institution. Very significant was the selection in 1907 of Benjamin Wheeler, of the University of California, as President of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. It was an open secret that the Institute wanted the best man available in America, and was prepared to offer every inducement to get him. That President Wheeler, a former Professor of Greek, and one of the staunchest advocates of classical training, should have been chosen, must have given food for thought to those who are wont to scoff at the Classics. It is a recognition by one of the chief sanctuaries of practical training, of the fact that classical studies develop the highest potentialities of the human mind; not that they furnish practical information to be turned directly into dollars and cents, but because the broadening of intellect which they produce enables the mental faculties to face any problem with satisfactory results. Thus, though the benefits of the classics are mainly esoteric, yet the fully educated man with his all-round information has a better chance to choose his vocation in life than if he has specialized for one thing and then finds himself disqualified.

This reaction towards the classics is a healthy sign in the life of our growing young nations, and gives our Catholic colleges and universities an excellent opportunity of demonstrating their true worth.

Books and Reviews.

"*Brownie and I*," by Richard Aumerle. Benziger Bros. (12mo. 85 cts.).

This is a story of college boys and the favorite dog. The author is a faithful painter of boys as they are at their sports, pranks and studies. As we read we are ourselves transformed into boys, with their joys and sorrows, and indefinable impulses. "*Brownie*," the college dog, is the faithful friend who takes his share in the college sports and escapades, and succeeds in winning the decisive baseball game of the year. We heartily recommend to our young readers this real boys' book.

"*Clare Lorraine*," by "Lee." Benziger Bros., (12mo., 85 cts.).