

EDITORIAL NOTES.

WE are again compelled, from lack of space, to hold over notices of conventions, some book reviews and other interesting matter. We have to thank several friends for contributions that thus far we have been unable to use.

THE classical scholar will be grateful to Mr. Kerr for his fine Greek version of a well-known hymn. Mr. Kerr has caught with rare felicity the spirit of the original, and has clothed it in a translation of singular force and beauty. If we are not mistaken it is well adapted for music.

THERE is at last some reasonable ground for concluding that the idea of university federation is making progress in this Province. A number of representative men from the various universities, as noticed elsewhere, recently had a conference with the Minister of Education, and it is stated that sufficient progress was made in the federation plan to warrant the calling of another meeting. This is most gratifying. We can see no insuperable barrier in the way of the successful accomplishment of the scheme. The time too seems propitious. The exercise of prudence and mutual forbearance should in due time bring about the desired result.

WE hope, dear reader of the Ascham Circle, that the holiday season is bringing to you the necessary relaxation from the severe strain of the past half-year. We trust, the school-room worry, which the lay mind can never understand and appreciate, is fast dissipating under the mellowing influences of sunshine, the fields and flowers, the delights of congenial society or the companionship of nature in her varying moods in the forest or on the river or by the shore. Now is the time to lay in a store of health and spirits for the coming term, and to put so much oil into the lamp

that it will be able to put to flight all the shadows that sometimes invest the school-room. With Horace, give cares to the winds to bear to the Cretan Sea.

THE desire of those engaged in High School work, to find some means of inducing pupils to continue their studies for a definite period is perfectly natural and praiseworthy. Every term witnesses the departure from school of numbers that are in woeful need of further culture, who might if they had but the desire, remain for years in training, but who do not feel any thirst for knowledge and whose only ambition is a craving to be "brought out" or to go into society. Our girls are far too ambitious to take the place of their mothers in social concerns, and our boys who have not a professional career before them will not tarry at any prophet's bidding. Various schemes have been suggested to meet this evil. The plan proposed by Principal McHenry, Cobourg, of having a graduation course and a diploma presented with proper ceremony is worth trying. But let the goal be conspicuous and the prize worth something. We must not enter into rivalry with the ladies' schools.

THE meeting of the Ontario Provincial Teachers' Association, beginning August 12, promises to be of unusual interest. The questions proposed for discussion not only in the general association, but in the sections, are of much importance and are entrusted to men of experience and ability. In addition to local celebrities, the presence of Col. F. W. Parker, of Illinois, the apostle of the "new education," will lend some zest to the proceedings. The superannuation scheme will no doubt receive the larger share of attention, and we trust the delegates will be able to formulate such views as will conserve the interests of the profession and prove accept-