

EDITORIAL.

POST-GRADUATE STUDIES.

It is a great advantage to persons pursuing an educational course to have a definite programme of studies laid down for their guidance. Their education will be more symmetrical and their reading less desultory than without such a programme. The strong desire to complete the prescribed curriculum, moreover, will often be an incentive to perseverance at times when their energies might be inclined to flag and their purposes to waver. The experience of those who have themselves undergone a pretty thorough educational training will be a better guide for the study and reading of the young than their own unaided judgment. Those who, for the indulgence of personal inclination, reject such guidance, may be not unaptly likened to the inexperienced traveller, who in traversing a pathless wilderness would follow his own fallible judgment rather than that of the veteran pioneer. Thus much, then, in favour of the common college curriculum, which may be taken to represent the embodied wisdom of the experienced Faculty of Instruction by whom it is prepared.

It is to be regretted, however, that at most ladies' seminaries the course of study is less extensive, both in the time occupied and in the range of subjects and the degree of attention bestowed upon them, than in first-class colleges for the education of young men. Moreover, of the large number of young ladies attending these seminaries, comparatively few complete the prescribed curriculum. Most remain for less than the full time required to accomplish that object, and confine themselves to an eclectic course, which often consists largely of musical or artistic accomplishments rather than the severer studies affording that intellectual discipline which is the chief advantage of higher education. Most instructors in ladies' colleges will, we think, concur in the opinion that the course should extend over four instead of three years, and that a greater proportion of young