

NEWS AND COMMENTS

A JOINT Committee on Terminology has been appointed by the Classical Association and several other educational bodies, to consider how far it may be possible to simplify and to unify the technical terms used in different languages. Perhaps this may lead up to a series of coordinated school grammars, like the larger scheme of Prof. Sonnenschein. Such series have already been begun in Germany, Holland, and we believe elsewhere.

A proposal has also been made for a Vacation School, in which demonstrations might be given of improved methods in classical teaching. Time and place have yet to be arranged; but it will hardly be doubted that such a school, with free discussion and criticism amongst a number of teachers, must be useful.

MR. A. C. BENSON has returned to the charge in the *Church Family Newspaper*, where he sets forth his simplified scheme for secondary schools. The main outlines of this are familiar from his letter in the *Morning Post* (see *The Year's Work*, 1908, p. 2), and he still shows his disbelief in Latin and Greek

for all but the very few. The great majority of schoolmasters still remain silent, and leave the forces of disintegration to work without any attempt to meet them.

ATTENTION should be called to Mr. Justice Malden's address, to Trinity College Classical Society, on the early history of classical learning in Ireland (Longmans, 1908). This subject still awaits its explorer; but enough is said to disclose an unexpected state of things. It may have been known that in the early centuries of our era Ireland kept the light of learning alight, and in particular that Greek was studied in her universities; but it is a surprise to learn how good were the Irish schools under the native chieftains, before wars destroyed the whole system. Yet even in the seventeenth century (about 1689) Sir Richard Cox says: 'In the present day, very few of the Irish aim at any more than a little Latin, which every cowboy pretends to, and a something of logic.' In the sixteenth century Latin was the common medium of intercourse with strangers.

VERSIONS AND TRANSLATIONS

PATIENCE ON A MONUMENT.

THERE once was a man who said, 'Well,
Will nobody answer this bell?

I have rung day and night
Till my hair has grown white,
And yet nobody answers the bell.'

E. Lear.

ΚΑΡΤΕΡΙΑ.

ἀνὴρ τις ἦν ἃ ξυμφορᾷ νικῶμενος,
'ὑπακούσεται τᾶρ' οὐτις ἐξηρημένῳ
τῷδ' ἀνδρὶ συνεχῶς ἡμέρας νύκτας θ' ὁμῶς
κῶδωνος οὕτως, μεχρὶ τοῦ γῆρας χρόνῳ
μακρῆ χροάζειν τοῦτο λευκανθῆς κᾶρα;
κάμοί ποθ' ὑπακούει τις; οὐτις οὐδὲ γρῦ.'

R. Y. T.

THREE BLIND MICE.

Three blind mice (*ter*)
See how they run! (*ter*)

They all run after the farmer's wife,
Who cut off their tails with a carving-knife.
Did you ever see such a sight in your life
As three blind mice?

ΤΡΙΣΑΘΛΙΟΙ.

Μὲν μὲν οἶδε τρεῖς σκότον δεδορκότες·
ἴδεσθε δ' οἶψ βουκόλου κατωκᾶρα
δρόμῳ φέρονται μετὰ γυναιχ' ὄρμη μῖα,
ἢ κοπίδος οὐράς καιρίῳ τρισσὰς γνάθῳ
ἀπέταμεν, ὦ 'λεξίκακε τοῦ θαύματος,
οὐ ποῖον ἦν ἄλογον εἰσορᾶν ποτε;

R. Y. T.