

## NEWS AND COMMENTS

The February *Classical Journal* of Chicago contains a paper on the 'Topical Method in the Study of Virgil,' by F. J. Miller, which will be useful to English sixth form masters. Mr. Miller recommends the study of Virgil with some definite plan, and he gives a list of 57 headings under which the material of study may be grouped. These might be used as lecture subjects or essay themes. Incidentally we find that Virgil's works are not studied as a whole in American schools, and it is to be noted that the study of the text itself is not prominent enough. We are apt in England to regard Virgil as a useful model for verse composition; Virgil as poet, as artist, and as a student of human life and character falls into the background in both east and west.

The *Rivista di Scienza* (Bologna), a new international quarterly, has an article in its first number by M. J. Tannery on 'L'enseignement secondaire,' in which a somewhat contemptuous view is taken of classical studies. The author is frankly utilitarian, and he says of the classics, 'On n'étudie le latin et le grec que pour les étudier, au moment où on les étudie.' These things will be studied by savants who think themselves an intellectual élite. 'A cela, je ne vois aucun mal. Dans l'enseignement secon-

daire, les langues mortes doivent faire place aux langues vivantes et aux sciences positives.' How far this is from the maxim, that the proper study of mankind is man! Yet in this latter view lies the real worth of classical literature: the bright light it casts on human nature, shown without its accidents in Homer, Sophocles, and Virgil. It is probable that we have ourselves to thank for the general neglect of this view.

The Classical Association has appointed a new Curricula Committee to consider further matters of importance. In view of the four years' Latin course we may call attention to a very useful book by Prof. Gonzalez Lodge, *The Vocabulary of High School Latin*. This book contains a dictionary to Caesar, *B.G.* i.-v.; Cicero, six speeches usually read in schools; Virgil, *Aeneid* i.-vi.: 4650 words, for each of which statistics are given, and the 2000 commonest selected as the essential vocabulary of Latin.

We are glad to find that English scholars are busying themselves with the restoration of the newly discovered Menander. In addition to Mr. Richards, whose proposals are printed in our present issue, Dr. Walter Headlam has issued an instructive pamphlet which is published by Messrs. Bowes, Cambridge.

## VERSIONS AND TRANSLATION

O Woman, in our hours of ease  
Uncertain, coy, and hard to please;  
When hours of anguish rack the brow,  
A ministering Angel thou!

SCOTT.

She took the cup of life to sip;  
Too bitter 'twas to drain:  
She meekly put it to her lip,  
And set it down again.

MEOLE CHURCHYARD.

Οἶον, ὅτ' εὐθυμῆ τις, ἔφν τὸ χρῆμα γυναικῶν  
ἔμπληκτον, σοβαρόν, καὶ μόλις ἠδόμενον.  
ἀλλ' ὅταν ἄλγος ἔχων τρύχη βίον, ἐς θεραπείην  
ἦδε παροῦσ' ἄλλη γίγνεται Ἡπίωνη.

Τὴν ζωὴν προποθεῖσαν ἐδέξατο, κοῦκ ἀπίθησεν,  
ἦδε πικρὴν δ' εὐροῦσ', ἦνεσε κἀπέθετο.

W. HEADLAM.

*King's Coll., Cambridge.*