

## SHORTER NOTICES.

*Die neuzeitliche Entwicklung des mathematischen Unterrichts an den höheren Mädchenschulen Deutschlands insbesondere Norddeutschlands.* Von Prof. Dr. J. SCHRÖDER. (Abhandlungen über den mathematischen Unterricht in Deutschland veranlasst durch die internationale mathematische Unterrichtskommission, herausgegeben von F. KLEIN. Band 1, Heft 5.) Leipzig, Teubner, 1913. xii + 183 pp.

THE publications of the international commission on the teaching of mathematics are especially significant at the present time when some persons are challenging the right of mathematics and other so-called disciplinary studies to continue to hold their time-honored positions in our curricula. As Germany is one of the strongholds of experimental psychology and as many of the experiments relating to "transference" of power from one subject to another have been made by Germans, it is especially interesting to see what effect all these discussions have had upon the amount and kind of mathematics in the courses of study of the schools of that country. The German subcommittee have planned five large volumes of "Abhandlungen." Two of these deal with their higher schools; the other three treat of separate questions in the instruction in higher mathematics, of mathematics in the technical schools, and of elementary and normal school mathematics. There will be almost forty separate pamphlets, written by men who are authorities in their several lines. The editor-in-chief is Professor Klein, who is undoubtedly better fitted than any one else to fill this responsible position.

The book under review is the fifth and last part of the first volume of the series. Of the three sections into which it is divided, the first two deal with the development and present conditions in "northern" Germany and the third takes up the present status in other parts of the country. The first section gives, in a concise form, a picture of the very primitive conditions in women's education that prevailed until recently, and it traces out the principal influences which have contributed to an amelioration of these conditions. The reader's attention is held by the stirring accounts of the long and hard struggle against ignorance and prejudice waged at first by a