

FIRST YEAR OF SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE, by Paul Bert, Ex-Minister of Education in France, Member of the French Institute, etc. Relfe Brothers, 9 Charterhouse Buildings, London, England.

The original edition of this little volume has had a circulation of 500,000 in France, and it needs but a cursory glance through its pages to account for this remarkable fact. The variety of its contents, its accuracy, its suitability to the capacity of children, its interesting style, the copiousness and correctness of its illustrations make it one of the most remarkable books of this age. Of the five hundred and fifty illustrations there are very few which fail of their purpose in elucidating the text. The contents comprise easy lessons written in a conversational style on animals, plants, stones and soils, physics, chemistry, animal physiology and vegetable physiology. These lessons contain the latest and most trustworthy information upon the leading facts of their respective subjects. One of the excuses for the culpable neglect of scientific teaching in our public schools has been the want of a suitable text-book. With this volume of M. Bert's available this excuse can no longer be made. There is just sufficient information on each subject to tempt the intelligent teacher to enlarge upon it, while it gives the pupil clear and comprehensive ideas as a basis for further knowledge. Though got up in the plainest style, we know of no book which we could more highly recommend as a present to an intelligent boy or girl.

PRINCIPAL MCKAY, of Pictou Academy, and other Nova Scotia educators are paying attention to spelling reform.

"EDUCATION," formerly published bi-monthly, has now become a monthly, and will be edited and published by Mr. Mowry, lately an editor of the *N. E. Journal of Education*. The first issue under the new management is a good one.

THE MONTHLY cordially welcomes the *Academy*, a new journal of secondary education, issued under the auspices of the Associated Academic Principals of the State of New York. Mr. Bacon, of Syracuse, is editor and publisher.

THE place of honour in *Harper's Magazine* for March is occupied by "An Iron City beside the Ruhr," being a deeply interesting account of the Krupp Works at Essen. Five other important articles, including one on "Cape Breton Folk," a powerful short story by Brander Matthews, serials, poetry, the editorial departments, and many illustrations, make up a fine number.

THE "Angry Bear Crossing a Railway Track," on the cover of the *Overland Monthly*, presides over a varied and attractive table of contents, in which the first three numbers are significant articles on the Chinese Question.

THE March *Atlantic* contains a number of able reviews, instalments of serials by Miss Murfree and Mr. James, pleasant pages from Dr. Holmes', pen and one more article on Gen. Grant.

"SHAKESPEARIANA" for January is a highly satisfactory number. Among other articles we may be permitted to mention that on Dr. Samuel Johnston, by J. Parker Norris.

THE March *Wide Awake* is an excellent number; the stories are amusing and good enough to be true, while the other department have been carefully prepared for the young people, for whom the magazine is intended.

It gives the MONTHLY great pleasure to note the increase in the circulation of the *English Illustrated Magazine*, of which the February number is early to hand, and contains among other things a capital short story by Grant Allen, an article on "Lifeboats and Lifeboat-Men," by C. J. Staniland, also one on "A Month in Sicily" by H. D. Traill, and a number of fine illustrations. In this magazine are to be found articles which appeal strongly to the home feeling of British people, and the cultivated taste of the scholar.

RECEIVED.--An Outline Map of the United States, D. C. Heath & Co. The Diacritical Speller and An Aid to English Grammar, C. W. Bardeen. The Practical Teacher, Vol. viii., Kellogg & Co. Cassell's National Library, edited by Prof. Henry Morley. No. 1, My Ten Years' Imprisonment. No. 2, Childe Harold's Pilgrimage. No. 3, Benjamin Franklin. No. 4, The Complete Angler. Issued weekly. Annual subscription, \$5. Single Nos., 10 cents.