

pany, New York, we have received the following books. An *Introduction to the Study of American Literature*, by Brander Matthews. The work of this talented author is familiar to readers of the more literary of American magazines; the present volume is a worthy presentation of its value. The book consists mainly of short and interesting lives of the most celebrated of American writers, treated in a way that can hardly fail to awaken a desire to become better acquainted with their productions. The edition is in every way an attractive one and would be useful as a book of reference to any teacher of literature.

In the *Eclectic English Classics* have been issued "Paradise Lost," Books I. and II., "Southy's Life of Nelson," and "Macbeth and Hamlet." This is an excellent school edition with carefully prepared notes, and short introductions.

*The Elements of Algebra*, by Prof. Lyman Hall, adapted for use in high schools. This is intended to introduce the study of Algebra but covers more ground than is usually found in a first book of Algebra. Special care has been taken in the preparation of review questions and examples.

*Robinson's New Higher Arithmetic*—a modernized edition of a text book that has been for many years used in the schools of the United States with success.

*Elements of Plane Geometry*, by John MacNie, edited by E. E. White. This is a carefully prepared text book in which stress is laid on the logical bearing of the different principles introduced. Exercises will be found at the foot of each page illustrating the points considered in the various propositions.

*Laboratory Work in Chemistry*, by Prof. E. H. Keiser, of Bryn Mawr.

By means of a series of experiments in inorganic chemistry this book is intended to render more effective the work of an instructor in a large class. Along with these are given some demonstrations suitable for presentation by one or more before the class.

*Elementary English*, by R. C. Metcalf, Supervisor of Schools, Mass., and Orville T. Bright, Superintendent of Schools, Cook County, containing preparatory work in grammar, composition and literature, and intended as an introduction to *Metcalf's English Grammar*. The plan is adopted of teaching by means of pictures which are to be described by the children first orally and then in writing.

In the *Eclectic School Readings* has been issued a book entitled "Old Stories of the East," by James Baldwin. The author's aim has been to produce a book that children might read with pleasure prepared from the stories contained in various parts of the Old Testament. Hebrew names are largely changed into their English equivalents. Everything that may tend to attract children to the presence of the wholesome and the divine is to be commended, and certainly the book before us is healthy and charming, but the question is irresistibly suggested whether children would prefer these tales to their originals which have all the proof of immortality that time can give them. It is quite certain that we do not, but then it is no longer a question of judgment with us, it was a question of birth.

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The unconscious needs of the world are all appeals and cries to God. He does not wait to hear the voice of conscious want. The mere vacancy is a begging after fulness; the mere darkness cries for light.