

## TEXT BOOKS.

*Comment.*—In performing the duty of selecting and prescribing text-books for the Public Schools, the Council of Public Instruction has availed itself as fully as possible of the knowledge and experience of those who are engaged in the practical work of education. The sole aim of recent modifications has been to secure, at reasonable cost, a series of texts *adapted for use in schools*. Change in authorized books is *in itself* a very undesirable thing.

The prescribing of new books is one of such importance to the country that the most extraordinary care has to be taken to make sure that the ultimate advantages of a change will more than compensate the people for the temporary loss or annoyance always involved in making a change. But change there must be. It is the essential condition of all growth; and we ought under such circumstances to be always prepared for it.

Inspectors and teachers are reminded:

1. That the course of study for common schools encourages an economical expenditure for text-books by providing a system of oral instruction for junior classes. Too many teachers try to satisfy themselves in respect to their more youthful pupils by placing in their hands text-books not needed in any case, and worse than useless when unaccompanied by proper oral exposition. A text-book should not be required for a child until he is prepared to use it intelligently.

2. That the regulation which makes it illegal and improper for a teacher to introduce unauthorized texts, by no means hinders him from giving his pupils the benefit of other treatises to whose explanations he may attach importance. The progressive teacher will always have such aids within reach, and will so use them as to impart variety and interest to his instructions.

## LIST OF TEXT BOOKS PRESCRIBED FOR USE IN SCHOOLS, WITH NAMES OF PUBLISHERS.

## COMMON SCHOOLS

Royal Readers, Nos. 1 to 6\*. (Thomas Nelson and Sons, Edinburgh and London). In French sections, French-English Editions, *Les Grandes Inventions Modernes* par Louis Figuri, and French texts prescribed for High Schools.

Maritime Readers. (Collins, Sons & Co., Glasgow and London).

\* Spelling Book superseded—*English Edition*. (Sullivan Bros.)

Health Readers, Nos. 1 and 2. (T. C. Allen & Co., Halifax).

Introductory Science Primer—Huxley; Chemistry Primer—Roscoe. (MacMillan & Co., London).

Calkin's Introductory Geography. (A. & W. Mackinlay, Halifax).

Calkin's History of British America. (A. & W. Mackinlay, Halifax).

Brief History of England. (Thomas Nelson & Sons, Edinburgh).

\* English Grammar. (A. & W. Mackinlay, Halifax). (Grammaire Française Elementaire, for the use of teachers in French sections).

Common School Arithmetic. (Allen & Co., Halifax).

National and Vacation Songs, (Grafton & Sons, Montreal) Young Voices, (Curwen, London).

Writing Copy Books—*Vertical*: as in Jackson's New Style, or Gage's Practical System. *Sloping*: Royal.

[The Council does not think it necessary to *prescribe* a single series of Copy Books, but only to require that *one* series shall be used exclusively in each School].

\* Drawing Books: Langdon S. Thompson's (D. C. Heath & Co., Boston).

Or Public School Drawing Course, (Canada Pub. Co., Toronto).

(Those marked with an asterisk \* are also used in High School grades).

## HIGH SCHOOL GRADES.

Martin's "The Human Body and the effects of Narcotics," (Henry Holt & Co., New York).

Calkin's Geography of the World (Mackinlay).

Outlines of British History (Thomas Nelson & Sons, Edinburgh).

Hal & Stevens' Euclid.

Hall & Knight's *Elementary Algebra*.

NOTE.—The character of the High School work in its various subjects is further indicated by the books referred to in the High School Course of Study.