

judgment. The present edition is a revision of the American edition of 1874, in which the work was adapted more fully to school-room use. In its present shape it leaves nothing to be desired as a trustworthy, well-furnished, attractive hand-book of literature. Not the least valuable portion of it is the sketch of American literature carefully brought up to date. The publishers have done their part admirably to make a volume should be a welcome addition to any teacher's library.

THE ELEMENTS OF RHETORIC AND COMPOSITION, by D. J. Hill, LL.D., President of the University at Lewisburgh. New edition. Sheldon & Co., New York and Chicago, 1884. pp. 270. Introductory price, \$1.

AMONG the multiplicity of text-books on Rhetoric and Composition, there has long been room for one, that being scientific without dulness, practical without fussiness, and modern without undue technicality would satisfy the necessities of the new education. President Hill's book fills the niche, and may be looked upon as a distinct advance upon all previous efforts. It is more comprehensive than Farrar's *How to Write Clearly*, and more pointed than Bain's *Elements of Composition*. It is specially adapted to beginner in the study, and it carries him through all the work of the completed composition. It contains distinct rules for every important process of composition, and it teaches how to think and organize thought.

THE ELEMENTS OF LOGIC, by W. S. Jevons. Edited by David J. Hill, LL.D., President of the University at Lewisburgh, Pa. Sheldon & Co., New York and Chicago. pp. 330. Introduction price, \$1.50.

THE text-book of the late lamented Professor Jevons, of Owen's College, Manches-

ter, is, both in England and America, the popular manual on the subject of Logic. The book, as it left the hands of the author, was remarkable for the clearness and simplicity of its style, the aptness of its illustrations, its completeness and modernness of examples in reasoning. Dr. Hill has sought to bestow upon the English work the advantage of a complete and precise analysis, and to give a greater degree of prominence to cardinal principles. By typographical devices he has succeeded in distinguishing the important and unimportant parts of the text. He has also secured unity of treatment by bringing together lessons treating of the same subject. He has added some collateral helps and summaries for review.

METHODS OF TEACHING GEOGRAPHY. Notes of lessons by Lucretia Crocker, Member of the Board of Supervisors, Boston Public Schools. Second edition. School Supply Co., Boston, Mass., 1884.

To those of our readers unacquainted with this little book we heartily recommend it as a useful guide to the proper teaching of a fascinating subject. Geography well-taught is one of the most useful subjects in the whole school curriculum; badly-taught without bestowing life and colour upon the dry facts of the text-books it is simply a means of wasting time. How to make the best of the subject is the aim of the writer; and any young teacher who is enterprising enough to adopt her method and follow her plan will do himself and his school a great service. We would recommend the book especially to the notice of Principals of Model Schools. It is a fine example of the Socratic method of teaching.

AN ENGLISHMAN'S "IMPRESSIONS."—Very much of the teaching which I heard was, in a sense, too good. Everything was made so plain and so easy that there was no hard work left to the scholars. This seemed to me to be one of the weak points in the American educational methods; and on two or three occasions, when I had the opportunity of examining a class in a high school or

a normal school, I thought I recognized its evil effects. When the class was tested by questions that travelled a very little way beyond the limits of the text-book which they were studying, or the lecture to which they had listened, there was far less readiness and intellectual self-reliance than there ought to have been. If the teachers did teach not quite so well, the result would, I believe, be better.