

ing volume¹ by DeMaistre to their Primary Series of French and German Reading Books. The comedy is sure to prove attractive and helpful to English readers. It presents an interesting side of the court intrigues of Marlborough and Bolingbroke. DeMaistre resembles Charles Lamb in humour and style. *The Voyage autour de ma Chambre* is perhaps too reflective or introspective, and too subtle in its humor to give much pleasure to young readers.

The same publishers are preparing still another series of French² and German³ books for use in English schools. The series takes its name from the general editor, Otto Siepmann of Clifton College. He has provided each volume with a number of appendices, specially intended to give plenty of *viva voce* drill in the idiomatic use of words and phrases which occur in the text. This feature greatly enhances the value of books in the eyes of the practical teacher. The works selected are in many cases by such authors as Grillparzer and Rosegger in Germany, and Vogüé and Pourillon in France, "who are prominent in their own country, but whose works have not yet received that recognition among our school classics which is their due." Also works of other writers who are already known to the English school boy, are being edited now for the first time in this series. In the selection of the series the editor has taken care to include such books as will help the English reader to understand the life, customs and institutions of Germany and of France. But this has not been done to the prejudice of a high literary standard. The editors of the different books have shown more than the usual regard for the literary character of their texts.

W. C. M.

In the new edition of Wentworth's Algebra⁴ the beginner is introduced at once to simple equations. A chapter on negative numbers has been added, and some changes made in the order of other parts of the book. There is a chapter on variables and limits, which will be helpful to pupils intending to study the calculus. A chapter on logarithms, with a table of five-place logarithms, is given at the end of the book. The exercises and problems are numerous and good. No answers are given. Principles are explained largely by the solution of concrete examples. As defects in the book, the definition of algebraic addition may be noticed. In that definition the expression "greater number" should be defined. The use of such expressions as "monomial," which can mean little to a child, should be as much as possible avoided. In the treatment of fractions the enunciation of the law of signs seems to us undesirable as likely to substitute a mechanical mode of working, where an intelligent watchfulness

¹XAVIER DEMAISTRE: *Voyage autour de ma Chambre*. Edited by G. Eugene Fasnacht. London. Macmillan. Pp. viii, 120. Price, 1s. 6d.

²SANDEAU: *Sacs et Parchemins*. Adapted and edited by E. Pellisier. London, Macmillan. Pp. xvi, 257. Price, 3s. 6d.

THEURIET: *L'Abbe Daniel*. Edited by P. Desages. London. Macmillan. Pp. xvi, 138. Price 2s. 6d.

BERNARD: *Lanneau d'Argent*. Edited by L. Sers. London. Macmillan. Pp. x, 159. Price, 2s.

³GRILLPARZER: *Sappho*. Edited by W. Rippmann. London. Macmillan. Pp. liii, 157. Price 3s.

ELSTER: *Zwischen den Schlachten*. Adapted and edited by L. Horisch. London. Macmillan. Pp. xvi, 254. Price 3s. 6d.

⁴NEW SCHOOL ALGEBRA, by G. A. Wentworth; \$1.25. Ginn & Co., publishers.

is needed at every step. Nevertheless the book seems a most desirable one for beginners. The treatment of negative numbers is good. The explanatory portion of the text is interspersed with very frequent sets of examples. The printing, the quality of paper, and the binding, are all that could be desired.

A well known author of text-books on geometry and algebra together with a former assistant professor of physics at Harvard, have brought out a text-book on physics.¹ The book has over four hundred pages of a size uniform with those of his other mathematical text-books. All the principal divisions of physics are dealt with. In the explanation of physical laws numerous illustrations are given, and in particular attention has been paid to the explanation of the more commonly observed physical phenomena. The book pays very little attention to laboratory methods and modes of making measurements. In this it does not seem to follow the most approved methods of teaching physics. The preface states, however, that a pamphlet containing full directions for performing the laboratory experiments will be published for teachers only. Throughout the book, in the explanation of laws, attempts have been made to indicate the line of thought of the discoverer. Its chief excellence is the abundance of illustrations of laws, which are thus put in comparatively clear light. The teacher's work would therefore be considerably lightened if the pupils carefully read the parts of the texts containing these illustrations.

This excellent text-book² contains 400 pages of a size uniform with those of his other mathematical books. Numeration and the elementary processes, including work in decimal fractions, are taught largely through the metric system of measures. Throughout the book will be found much matter suitable for the foundation of a business education. The rules are concise and always based on examples that have been solved for the purpose. The problems are numerous and not difficult. Much scientific information is given in connection with many of the problems. They are such as are likely to prepare the pupils for the problems of actual life. A table of four-place logarithms is given at the end of the book, and should be useful in facilitating the work of the more advanced students. The book can be recommended to all teachers. M.

The chief fault in the studies which make up our school curriculums is that they train the memory only. A corrective is in the introduction of manual training and domestic science, both of which are so closely connected with the work of daily life that they afford an opportunity for the training of other faculties than the memory. The text-book before us³ aims to assist the pupil in acquiring a knowledge of the chief principles of correct living and to make a practical use of the knowledge acquired. The book is very useful. It gives a classification of foods, and the value of each in the sustenance of the body, comprehensive directions how to prepare economically the various kinds of food, with remarks and hints on the science of nutrition, hygiene, household management and care of the sick.

¹A TEXT-BOOK ON PHYSICS. By G. A. Wentworth, A. M., and G. A. Hill, A. M. Ginn & Co., Publishers. \$1. 25.

²AN ADVANCED ARITHMETIC, by G. A. Wentworth. \$1.00. Ginn & Co., publishers.

³PUBLIC SCHOOL DOMESTIC SCIENCE, by Mrs. T. Hoodless, President of the School of Domestic Science, Hamilton, Ont. Pages 196. Copp, Clark Company, Toronto, Publishers.