

of the various educational events recorded in the Volumes of this Documentary History, and no man now living is better qualified for the task of putting into continuous and readable shape, the vast fund of materials at his command.

The Standard Reader Series is inaugurated by a "First Reader," which is accompanied by a Teacher's Manual, with an introduction for the entire series. Much care has been taken in preparing the First Reader for use in schools, but we have serious doubts of its fitness for our schools. Funk & Wagnalls Company, New York and London.

In the *Riverside Literature Series*, Mr. Ewing's "Jacknapes" and "Brownies," 15 cents, have been sent us. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston.

Our Country's Story. An Elementary History of the United States. 65 cents. By Eva March Tipten.

A collection of the essential facts and principles of history, briefly told in a simple style that cannot fail to appeal to a child, and to develop thought, without which the study of history is almost valueless. Much of this history is applicable to the history of Canada.

*The*age of Chaucer (1340-1400)*, by F. J. Snell, M.A., with introductions by Prof. I. W. Hales. Messrs. George Bell and Sons, London, price 3s 6d. This is one of the volumes in the series of Hand Books of English Literature. We have had occasion to speak in high praise of these hand books; they seem so thorough, complete and scholarly, that it is very satisfactory to read and commend them to the attention of

our readers. The illustrations by Mr. Hales is worth more than the whole price of the book.

Murray's Home and School Library. Edited by Laurie Magnus, M.D. London, England. 2s.

"Heroes of the West." The writers say, "We are writing primarily for those who have the main facts and biographies of English History; we aim at supplementing this, and at suggesting the true prospective of the English events in the wider landscape of Western Europe."

The Teaching of Chemistry and Physics in the Secondary School. By Alexander Smith, B.Sc., Ph. D., associate professor in the University of Chicago, and Edwin H. Hall, Ph.D., professor in Harvard University. Longmans, Green & Co., Publishers, London, Eng.

Prof. Smith treats of the defects in the present teaching of chemistry, which he considers more abundant than the advantages secured. He goes on to show what ought to be the work done in the secondary school to make this science do the most for the mental development of the pupil, especially in training to careful observation and true inductions from the observations made. This should be supplemented by thorough recitation work with lectures and full explanations by the teacher. Considerable attention should be given to the theories of chemistry.

The second part of the book gives clearly Prof. Hall's views in regard to the teaching of physics. He indicates the class of experiments that give the pupil the best prepara-