

teacher to investigate,—if he would know all that there is to be known about the children under his care, the principles of physiology, psychology, and ethics. The medium of his intercourse with his pupils is language, and the laws of language are to be known only through the principles of logic; and hence, the science of pedagogics has to do with the science of logic. The branches of human knowledge are not all of equal value, hence the science of education has to deal with education values. It has also to deal with school organization and school systems, and this involves the differentiation of child nature in the many and leads to the investigation of history, sociology, and legislation. Then there is method, and without the science which explains and guides the art, method in imparting instruction is empirical and its failures misunderstood. In a word, Mr. Payne treats this part of his subject with the acumen of a thinker of matured experience. He evidently knows how to speak the truth that is within him in a manner the most attractive to the reader, and when he says in his introduction, "I wish I might gain the ear of young men who are ambitious to rise in the world through the doing of good," we feel that there is in the expression an honesty which will induce our teachers to read his pages on the *mode of Educational Progress* and *The Teacher as a Philanthropist*, if not to study carefully the whole volume. It is needless for us to say that the work is in attractive form, as all the Harper's books are, in point of printing and binding.

SHORT STORIES FROM THE DICTIONARY. By Arthur Gilman. Boston: The Interstate Publishing Company. Price 60 cents. Large books are not always the most instructive, however entertaining they may be, and a small work, with a special purpose, is often worth a shelf full of ordinary volumes. That fact is true of Mr. Arthur Gilman's **SHORT STORIES**, which have a double value, that of simple interest, and that of teaching readers to think. Although they were prepared for young readers, there are very few who will not find in them much that is of genuine profit. To the reader of the old English classics, they will furnish a series of hints for study and research. Bible readers will find a key to many difficult passages, and children can turn what seems to them like dry study, into a very agreeable pastime by taking, as Mr. Gilman does, words at random from the dictionary, and tracing their various changes in form and meaning down to the present day. As an example of what one may learn from these little stories, we are told that centuries ago the word "sad" meant simply solid, substantial, and that the word "earing," which occurs in the Old Testament and in Shakespeare, and which is generally regarded as synonymous with harvesting, really comes from the Latin *arare*, and means to plough. The author shows us that our modern word "bureau" originated in an ancient Greek word, *pur*, fire; the Latins made it *burrus*, red; then the French turned it into *buire*, a reddish brown; in modern French it became *bure*, the name of a coarse brown woollen cloth. This cloth was used to cover tables for writing, which were called bureaux. The name finally became attached to the room, and as these rooms were used by officers of Government, the word finally was applied to departments of government. Some of these tables held drawers and gradually took a distinct form, still keeping the name. Here we have the regular evolution of the name of a common article of modern furniture, through many centuries, from the Greek "fire." That is but a single example of the strange changes of meaning which occur in words, numerous examples of which are given by Mr. Gilman. The titles of some of the chapters will suggest some of the detail of the book—"Names of Countries," "Parts of the Body," "Names of Noises," "Handy Words," and "Dwellings and Other Places." Although not prepared for school use, **STORIES FROM THE DICTIONARY** would make an admirable book for supplementary reading or study in our grammar schools.