by plunging a lighted wax taper through the tubulure of a bell jar containing the gas. The taper will be extinguished and the nitrogen fail to ignite.

- 5. (a) The compounds which charcoal, graphite and diamond are capable of forming with other elements are identical.
- (b) For the formation of any of these compounds the same proportion by weight of charcoal, graphite or diamonds is necessary.
- 6.  $CaCO_3 + 2(HCl) = CaCl_2 + H_2O + CO_3$  $Na + H_2O = NaHO + H$ .
- 2.  $(NaCl) + 2(H_2SO_4) + MnO_2 = MnSO_4 + Na_2SO_4 + 2(H_2O) + Cl_2$ .

 $P_2O_3 + 3(H_2O) = 2(H_3PO_4)$ .

7. [Only incandescent solids and liquids furnish a continuous spectrum, therefore] Substances, the product of combustion of which is solid (rendered incandescent by the heat eliminated during combustion), burn with a luminous flame; those, the product of combustion of which is gaseous, with a non-luminous flame. The product of combustion of phosphorus is solid P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>; in the case of coal gas the product of the first stage of combustion is water gas and solid carbon. The products of combustion of Sulphur and Hydrogen are gaseous, i.e., sulphur dioxide and water gas respectively.

8. 161:65=33/:X.

 $X = \frac{975}{644} = 1.513$  lbs of zinc.

## CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE.

GOLDSMITH'S DESERTED VILLAGE; COWPER'S THE TASK (Book III.—The Garden); and the DE COVERLEY PAPERS, from the Spectator—edited with Lives, Notes, Introductory Chapters and Examination Questions, by William Williams, B.A., Head Master Collingwood Collegiate Institute. One vol. 18mo. Toronto: Canada Publishing Co., 1881.

THE contents of this manual, prepared by Mr. Williams for the English Literature Series of the Canada Publishing Co., embrace the portions of the English authors of the eighteenth century prescribed for University Matriculation and the Departmental Examinations for Teachers' Certificates. The work is a convenient compend for the use of students who seek a critical acquaintance with the writings of Goldsmith, Cowper and Addison; and its compilation bespeaks the growing interest of our educational authorities in a department of study which has hitherto been too much neglected. The general introduction, which occupies eleven pages, is a very full and appreciative summary of the literary history of the eighteenth centurythat very interesting and important chapter in the annals of our literature. Mr. Williams

writes in a pleasant style, not quite free from mannerism, but he is at least free from the jejune barrenness into which most so-called "Manuals" have boiled down this delightful subject. "We have changed all that," since Taine's great work became popularized. The "Chronological Parallel," a new and useful feature common to several of the text books we have recently reviewed in the MONTHLY, is helpful to the student in realizing the literary "situation." The "Life of Goldsmith," short as it necessarily is, we find worthy of such praise as we are seldom able to give to a Canadian biography in one of these text Mr. Williams has told, in his own words and with his own thoughts, the old but charming story of the Irish parson's boy. Such a study as that here given cannot fail to impress and attract the student who reads in Mr. William's version the history of this most lovable of poets. The "Life of Cowper" is good also; but though well adapted for its purpose, of giving a clear idea of Cowper's position in the eighteenth-century literature, we find it less original in thought than the other "Lives" in the volume, while it is sometimes expressed in a slipshod manner.