

PREFACE

In presenting the answers to the Elementary Arithmetic, Parts I and II, together with hints for the solution of the more difficult problems, the authors desire to make the following observations:—

Great importance should be given to the oral arithmetic; in fact, no written work should be given to the pupil or attempted by the pupil until the principles necessary for the complete mastering of the subject have been thoroughly grasped through oral exercises involving the use of simple numbers. For this purpose the oral exercises of the text should be largely supplemented by the teacher. Emphasis should be laid upon actual business practices and the understanding of business terms. Often the difficulty in the solution of the problem disappears when these things are known.

Precision in the use of language necessary to the accurate expression of thought cannot receive too much attention either in oral or written work. This will promote not only keener discernment and mental development, but will also tend to secure accuracy in the final result. The habit of accepting inaccurate work upon the pretext that the *result does not matter* cannot be too strongly deprecated.

Second in importance to accuracy is *neatness* in the performance of all written work. Neatness will lessen the number of mechanical errors as well as lead to accuracy in reasoning. No written work in any subject will be accepted by the efficient teacher that does not closely approximate to the pupil's best production. To secure this will require vigilance and persistence on the part of the teacher, but the results will fully justify the effort put forth.