

The Review's Question Box.

B. B.—Please solve the following :—If $x+c$ be the H. C. F. of x^2+ax+b and $x^2+a^1x+b^1$, prove that their L. C. M. will be $x^3+(a+a^1-c)x^2+(aa^1-c^2)x+(a-c)(a^1-c)c$.—Todhunter & Loney's Algebra, Ex. XL, Question 20.

Suppose $(x+d)(x+c)=x^2+ax+b$

and $(x+d^1)(x+c)=x^2+a^1x+b^1$

Then $x^3+(c+d)x+cd=x^2+ax+b$

and $x^2+(c+d^1)x+cd^1=x^2+a^1x+b^1$

$\therefore c+d=a$ and $c+d^1=a^1$

And $d=a-c$ and $d^1=a^1-c$

L. C. M. $= (x+c)(x+d)(x+d^1)$

$= (x+c)(x+a-c)(x+a^1-c)$ (by substituting value of d and d^1)

$= x^3+(a+a^1-c)x^2+(aa^1-c^2)x+(a-c)(a^1-c)c$

D. J. M. I.—Please name an annotated edition of Lamb's twenty "Tales from Shakespeare," as prescribed for Grades IX and X of the Nova Scotian high school course. C. D. Punchard's edition, by Macmillan & Co., London, is excellent, so far as it goes, but it only contains eight "Tales."

We do not know of any edition of the "Tales" with notes for all. If any of our correspondents has fuller information we will be glad to publish it.

STUDENT.—Why do we say "a history," but "an historical account?"

In "a history" the accent is put on the first syllable "his" and the h is distinctly sounded; but we say "an historical account" because here the accent is placed on the syllable "tor," and the h is practically silent; the n of "an" is only a bridge to span the hiatus between the vowel sounds "a" and "i."

A. A. B.—(a) In the new edition of Meiklejohn's English Language, in the exercises on page 212, Exercise No. XVII, the following is asked: "Define a distributive pronoun." There is no definition given in the book, and I have not been able to find one.

(b) Also in the geography, on page 198, in the exercise of marking fortresses and harbors of the British Empire, I have been unable to locate "Lyttleton."

(a) The distributive pronouns, or distributive adjectives as they are usually termed, with a noun expressed or understood, are *each*, *every*, *either*, *neither*. They restrict the meaning by showing that persons or things denoted by the noun are taken *singly* or in *separate lots*.

(b) "Lyttelton" is the proper spelling, not "Lyttleton." It is a seaport town of New Zealand, on Port Cooper, eight miles southeast of Christchurch, of which it is the port. Its population is a little over 4,000.

B. C.—What do you think of the phrase, copied from an educational journal,—"should be gotten ready."

It is ———, but never mind. The writer should have racked his brain for an equivalent, and if he did not find any, say "should be got ready."

CURRENT EVENTS.

A brief but suggestive news item says, "Macedonia occupies the serious attention of the powers." It will be difficult, and perhaps impossible, to prevent another uprising against the Turks when the winter is over.

Commander Dillingham, who left the West Indies after being instrumental in ending a revolution in Santo Domingo, and came at full speed to represent the United States in the DeMonts tercentenary celebrations, has returned to that station. His presence, no doubt, accounts for the fact that the existing government of Santo Domingo has "formally and freely" invited the United States government to assist in administering the government of that turbulent republic, so far as its financial system is concerned. A large fleet of United States ships has since been sent to his aid to prevent any successful attempt on the part of the Dominicans to keep control of their country, and to oppose any other foreign intervention.

The government of the Orange River Colony has sent a young Boer farmer to Canada to study Canadian agricultural methods.

Submerged bells, of which thirty are to be included in the new system for the St. Lawrence river and the coasts of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, have been used for signalling for a distance of four miles or more. Ships approaching in foggy weather receive the sound through a water-filled cylinder on each side of the hull, below the water line; which, acting like an ear, transmits vibrations to telephones in any part of the vessel. Each lighthouse and light-ship will have its own signal, so that the mariner can learn his exact location and be warned of danger.

A bulletin of the Maine agricultural station warns us of the coming of the brown-tail moth, which threatens the destruction of orchards and hardwood forests, if it cannot be controlled.

The revolution in Paraguay has ended with the triumph of the revolutionary party.

A midwinter battle in Manchuria, in which both the armies suffered a heavy loss, has left the situation much the same as before, except that the Russian losses were probably the heavier.

The largest diamond ever found has lately been discovered in South Africa. It weighs over 3,000 carats, which is nearly twice the weight of the largest hitherto known. It is valued at about three and a half million dollars.