

RECENT BOOKS.

The *Wentworth-Smith Arithmetics* are a series of text-books, three in number, intended for grades 3 to 8. Book I, grades 3 and 4, price 35 cents, is convenient in arrangement, using many diagrams, and is clear in matters of detail. It is attractive, and arranges exercises in such a manner as to arouse the interest of boys and girls, without presenting too great difficulties to discourage them. Book II, price 40 cents, is for grades 5 and 6, and covers the topics ordinarily studied in these grades, with particular stress on common and decimal fractions and the mensuration of plane figures and simplest solids. Obsolete and too technical subjects are omitted. Book III, price 45 cents, has been prepared for grades 7 and 8, not alone as to subject matter but also for convenience of arrangement. The problems are modern, avoiding technicalities and with numerous sets of exercises that relate to the vocational interests of the people. This book also contains a chapter on algebra, with an appendix containing a few recreations in the lighter side of arithmetic. These books seem to meet every requirement of the classroom, are thoroughly progressive and meet the needs of practical study to a marked degree. (Ginn & Company, Boston, Mass.)

Vocational Algebra is the title of a concise little book containing the essentials of algebra, presenting only such topics as are needed in vocational classes. Any one who has mastered it will be able to understand all the algebra of ordinary trade or business. The book contains a wide range of general vocational problems, but is free from mere puzzles and technicalities. (Cloth; pages, 88; price, 50 cents. Ginn & Company, Boston, Mass.)

It will be a great convenience to students to have a text-book combining plane and solid geometry. The new *Wentworth-Smith Geometry* does this, and also contains so many admirable features in one book that it will infuse new life into this study in our schools. Some points of excellence are: A gradual advance from one-step exercises to the more difficult ones; a grouping of exercises, and a placing of the groups exactly where they are needed; a safe correlation with beginning algebra; a sane treatment of applied problems; a large number of exercises from which to select; a safe reduction of the number of propositions; a perfection of pages, figures, and proofs that has never before been attained. (Cloth x+470 pages, illustrated; price, \$1.30. Ginn & Company, Boston.)

The volume of *Selections from Lincoln*, edited with introduction and notes by Ida M. Tarbell, begins with the first public address, written when Lincoln was twenty-three years old, and ends with his last public words, spoken in Washington three days before his assassination. They consist of letters to friends and to political allies and opponents, of public papers, of addresses on a great variety of occasions, and of extracts from the debates and speeches in which he expounded his ideas on slavery. (Cloth; xxvii+124 pages; price, 30 cents. Ginn & Company, Boston.)

A little book with the attractive title "*Tell it Again*" stories is intended to help the kindergartner, the primary teacher, and the mother to find the right story for the children in her care. It comprises forty-two stories, including fairy tales and myths, holiday, animal, nature

and Bible stories. The book is attractively illustrated. (Cloth; 173 pages; price, 50 cents. Ginn & Company, Boston.)

A book on *The Teaching of Geometry*, by David Eugene Smith, professor of mathematics in Teachers' College, Columbia University, cannot fail to help teachers do better work in the classroom. The work considers in detail the rise of geometry, the changing ideals in the teaching of the subject, and the most important propositions that are considered in the ordinary course, showing their origin, the various methods of treating them, and their genuine applications, thus giving to the teacher exactly the material needed to vitalize the work in the high school. (Cloth; 339 pages; price, \$1.25. Ginn & Company, Boston.)

Another of those scholarly books for which the University Tutorial Press has won such a high reputation, is *Shakespeare's Henry V*. The excellence of the text, the literary flavour of the introduction and notes, the index of proper names and of the notes, will be appreciated by students and readers. (Cloth; pages, xlv+196; price, 2s. The University Tutorial Press, Drury Lane, London, W. C.)

The Education Department of Ontario has published twenty volumes of *Documentary History of Education*. The papers have been collected and edited by Dr. J. George Hodgins, whose indefatigable labours have placed Ontario far in the front among the provinces of Canada in historical educational records. An additional volume just published contains a group of the more rare and interesting documents relating to important periods in the educational history of the province.

One of the most valuable publications of the year relating to Canada is the volume just issued on *Lands, Fisheries, Game and Minerals*, by the Dominion Commission of Conservation. It is attractively printed and bound, and fully illustrated throughout. It is, perhaps, the most complete record of investigation and research that has ever been published in Canada on the subjects named above, and as a reference book is invaluable to the student.

The discussions of forestry problems in every part of Canada are of vital interest to every Canadian whether he is in any way connected with the trade of forest products or not. Hence the report of the great Canadian Forestry Convention held at Quebec last winter is of particular interest. Persons desiring to obtain a copy will receive one free upon application to the Secretary of the Canadian Forestry Association, Canadian Building, Ottawa.

OFFICIAL NOTICES.

The publisher of the Ontario school copy books having declined to supply them on the terms prescribed by the C. P. I., the Council has restored the "Royal Crown" (English civil service style) to the "Prescribed List" for use in the public schools.

The publisher (Mackinlays, Halifax,) agreed to supply them at the same retail price offered the Ontario publisher, THREE cents per book, with 20% off per dozen, and 25% off per gross.

A. H. MACKAY,
Secretary, C. P. I.

Education Office, Halifax, N. S.,
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