

of Missouri. These are very spicy and entertaining. The magazine is illustrated and has 36 pages. The price is only one dollar a year. Published by E. L. Kellogg & Co., New York.

GRAMMATICAL ANALYSIS BY DIAGRAMS, by Albert N. Raub, Ph.D., Harrisburg, Pa., is a little work that has much to recommend it for general use in our schools. The author, who is evidently a practical educationist, ought to be awarded the credit of having devised the simplest method yet proposed of representing to the eye the analysis of a sentence. Many are the schemes that have been proposed and adopted, but they are all either too complicated or not sufficiently exhaustive. Whilst bewildering to the learner, they involve much unnecessary labor and time both in the writing of them by the pupil and in the scrutinizing of them by the teacher or examiner. That laid down and explained in this little book is such as will excite the interest of the pupil, whilst it facilitates the work of both pupil and teacher. The explanatory words, "Subject," "Attributive Adjunct," etc., need not be written at all, the function of each part of the sentence being understood solely from its position in a diagram, like this: +. The work ought to be made a text-book.

ERRORS IN THE USE OF ENGLISH, based on Hooper's *Errors in the use of English*, compiled and edited by J. Douglas Christie, B.A., Modern Language master in St. Catharines Collegiate Institute. Williamson & Co., Toronto, Publishers. That "practical English" is becoming an important subject in our educational programme is fully attested by the number of volumes recently compiled by ambitious masters throughout our province, who have met a felt want by collating examples of "False Syntax" and other forms of bad English. Excellent collections have already been made by such men as Principals Strang, McBride, and Williams, who are impressed with the fact that a true theory with a great deal of practice in guarding against incorrect forms of speech, is the most effective method of teaching English. Though their works are used in many schools in the province, and though they furnish teachers and pupils with all the examples necessary for systematic drill, yet the action of the Education Department in recommending Hodgson's "Errors in the Use of English" has practically coerced masters into using it. Both the English and the American editions of this work are not only too expensive for many pupils, but are also ill-adapted for class use, inasmuch as the errors are often italicized and the corrections appended. Mr. Christie has done a good work in condensing and re-arranging this volume, in remedying its defects as a class book, in adapting the matter to suit the course in Canadian schools, and especially in giving pupils a text book at a popular price. Conscientious teachers who wish to avail themselves of Hodgson's explanations can easily do so by referring to the number of the page (in the English edition) which Mr. Christie has carefully appended to each sentence. Though this work will be of great service to candidates preparing for approaching departmental and university examinations, yet it would be of very little service in Public Schools and in the junior forms of High Schools, inasmuch as the sentences are too long and too involved for younger and uninitiated pupils, who will find more suitable collections in Gage's or in Strang's False Syntax. Mr. Christie has evidently spared no pains in preparing this work, which will no doubt be appreciated by English masters in our schools.

THE ELOCUTIONISTS' ANNUAL, No. 13. National School of Elocution and Oratory, Philadelphia. Price, 30 cents. This number contains some new pieces of a first-class character, and the selections, dialogues, tableaux, &c., are generally of the very best kind, including many choice bits of humor. As a series, the Elocutionists' Annual stands out ahead for its purity of tone and elevating character, and has reached a high standard as an adjunct to school books. For Friday afternoon exercises we know of no book better suited, and not alone for that, but also for the family circle and the public platform, we strongly recommend it. When we state that it is compiled by Mrs. J. W. Shoemaker, we mention all that is necessary to ensure its popularity.

A HANDBOOK OF POETICS, for Students of English Verse. By Francis B. Gummere, Ph.D. Ginn & Company, Boston, September, 1885. When an author is well versed in his subject, and writes upon it *con amore*, two requisites are at hand which go a long way towards ensuring the production of a good book, and when to these there are added a wise judgment in selecting the matter to be presented, and skill in presenting it, a good book is certain. These four qualifications have been happily combined in the production of this book before us, and we do not hesitate to pronounce it the best book of its size we have met with on the subject on which it treats. Though the author modestly calls his work a Handbook, he has

managed to compress into a work of 250 duodecimo pages, a greater amount of useful information, on the principles that underlie and govern poetic composition, than is to be found in many a book of far higher pretensions and greater cost. In presenting these principles, "the effort has been made," as he says in the Preface, "to be accurate without being pedantic, and to avoid the barrenness of the primer, as well as the too abundant detail of the treatise." We think all who read it will agree with us that he has hit the happy mean. No space is consumed in discussing the place of poetry as a branch of aesthetics; nor does the author essay to do what has never yet been done satisfactorily—to give a definition of poetry; but after showing that the term is applicable to the productions of the imagination expressed in language, whether that language be material or not, he proceeds at once to discuss the "Subject-Matter" of Poetry in its three main forms of Epic Poetry, Lyric Poetry, and Dramatic Poetry. After showing how Epic was developed, the author goes on to show how it, in time, yielded certain territory to Lyric, and how both finally ceded ground to Drama; and he notices as he goes, how, from these three as centres, there went out a variety of minor divisions. The examples given throughout each part of the book serve the useful purpose of furnishing the student of poetic literature with standards by which he may classify any poem he comes across, and at the same time determine its merits or demerits. Now and then, as was the case with us, he will feel inclined to differ from the author as to his valuation and classification of a poem, yet, after deliberation he will adopt the dictum of Sir Roger de Coverley and confess that there's much to be said on both sides." To follow the author through his treatment of "Style" and "Metre," which constitute Parts II. and III. of his book, would protract this notice to too great length. Suffice it to say, that such is the definite and compact knowledge of the science of poetry conveyed in this little work, that we would strongly recommend every student of English Literature, among our readers, to procure a copy without delay.

ELEMENTS OF GEOMETRY AND TRIGONOMETRY: from the works of A. M. Legendre, adapted to the course of mathematical instruction in the United States, by Charles Davies, LL.D. Edited by J. Howard Van Amringe, A.M., Ph.D. A. S. Barnes & Co. We have examined the whole of this work, and have looked into the demonstrations of a few of the propositions with much care. We find the definitions to be carefully worded, the demonstrations rigorous and exact, and there is that "orderly and logical development of the subject," which is so plainly wanting in Euclid's Elements. Founded as this work is on that of Legendre, when the author departs from the unique demonstrations of the celebrated Frenchman, as e.g., in showing that the sum of the three angles of a triangle are equal to two right angles, we would have liked to find such demonstration preserved intact, & y in a foot note or appendix. We think that the well graded exercises under various propositions and at the end of each book not the least valuable part of the work. These are sufficiently numerous to enable the learner to test his proficiency at every step. The mechanical make-up of this book is all that can be desired. It is strongly bound, the paper good, the print clear, and the diagrams extremely well drawn. Though designed for the colleges of the United States, yet the Canadian teacher of Geometry and Trigonometry will find this work very useful. To such we can heartily recommend it.

"Nellie G." confides her school difficulties to the *Boston Globe* as follows:—"I am in the Grammar school. My teacher tells me to study at home. I can't study in school. "Singing, speaking, drawing, scolding, lecturing, whispering (by those about me,) don't leave any time for it. Teacher says I musn't go out evenings. Doctor says I musn't study by lamp-light. Father says, the fact I have a doctor, shows something is wrong. But how can I take exercise and stay out doors, when I must be studying at home?"

In a certain family a pair of twins made their appearance, and were shown to their little sister of four years. It happened that whenever the household cat had kittens the prettiest were saved and the rest drowned. When the twins were shown the child by their happy father, she looked at them earnestly, and at length, putting her little finger-tip on the cheek of one of them, looked up and said, with all the seriousness possible, "Papa, I think we'll save this one."

"I'm fum Mistch Brown, mum, gen'tlemun; what lives 'cross de way. He says, won't yer please shut down dem winders we'en de young lady's a-playn'?" "But I thought Mr. Brown was musical himself?" "Dat's what's de mattah, mum."