

TEXT BOOKS.

Comment.—In performing the duty of selecting and prescribing text-books for the Public Schools, the Council of Public Instruction has availed itself as fully as possible of the knowledge and experience of those who are engaged in the practical work of education. The sole aim of recent modifications has been to secure, at reasonable cost, a series of texts, adapted for use in schools. Change in authorized books is in itself a very undesirable thing; and it is hoped and believed that matters may remain where they are now for years to come, without substantial alteration.

The general effect of recent changes has been to largely and permanently reduce the cost of text-books, especially to pupils pursuing an extended course. The Council is engaged in inquiries and efforts with a view to still further diminish expense by securing, wherever practicable, a lowering in price and an improvement in the mechanical quality of the prescribed texts.

Inspectors and teachers are reminded:

1. That the Course of Study for Common Schools encourages an economical expenditure for text-books by providing a system of oral instruction for junior classes. Too many teachers try to satisfy themselves in respect to their more youthful pupils by placing in their hands text-books not needed in any case, and worse than useless when unaccompanied by proper oral exposition. A text-book should not be required for a child until he is prepared to use it intelligently.

2. That the regulation which makes it illegal and improper for a teacher to introduce unauthorized texts, by no means hinders him from giving his pupils the benefit of other treatises to whose explanations he may attach importance. The progressive teacher will always have such aids within reach, and will so use them as to impart variety and interest to his instructions.

LIST OF TEXT BOOKS PRESCRIBED FOR USE IN SCHOOLS, WITH NAMES OF PUBLISHERS.

ENGLISH.

Reading and Spelling. (1.) The Royal Series (Thomas Nelson & Sons, Edinburgh and London.)

(2.) The Maritime Series (Wm. Collins, Sons & Co., Glasgow and London.)

(3.) The Spelling Book Superseded—*English Edition.* (Sullivan Bros.)

NOTE.—In sections where French is the vernacular language, and the Trustees desire that English should also be taught, the French-English Readers of the Royal Series will be found very serviceable.

Grammar and Composition. (1.) English Grammar for Schools (A. & W. Mackinlay.)

(2.) Dalgleish's Introductory Text Book of English Composition (A. & W. Mackinlay.)

(3.) Dalgleish's Advanced Text Book of English Composition (Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh.)

Geography. (1.) Calkin's Introductory Text Book (A. & W. Mackinlay.)

(2.) Calkin's Geography of the World (A. & W. Mackinlay.)

History. 1.) Calkin's History of British America (A. & W. Mackinlay.)

(2.) Outlines of British History (Thos. Nelson & Sons, Edinburgh and London.)

(3.) Swinton's Outlines of the World's History, Canadian Edition, (A. & W. Mackinlay.)

MATHEMATICS.

Arithmetic. (1.) Kirkland & Scott's Elementary Arithmetic (Gage & Co., Toronto.)

2. Hamblin Smith's Arithmetic (Gage & Co., Toronto.)

Algebra. Todhunter's Algebra for Beginners (Copp, Clark & Co., Toronto.)

Geometry. Euclid, Hamblin Smith's Edition (Gage & Co., Toronto.)

[First four books published as special Nova Scotia Edition.]

Practical Mathematics. Eaton's Elementary Practical Mathematics (D. H. Smith & Co., Truro.)

Book-keeping. Eaton & Frazee's treatise. (A. & W. Mackinlay.)

SCIENCE.

1. The Science Primers (Macmillan & Co., and James Campbell & Son, Toronto.)

- [1.] The Introductory Primer.
- [2.] Physical Geography.—Geikie.
- [3.] Physics.—Balfour Stewart.
- [4.] Geology.—Geikie.
- [5.] Physiology.—Foster.
- [6.] Astronomy.—Lockyer.

2. Tanner's First Principles of Agriculture (A. & W. Mackinlay.)

3. Gray's "How Plants Grow."

4. Steele's "Fourteen Weeks in Chemistry."

WRITING AND DRAWING.

1. Payson, Dutton and Scribner's Copy Books, Beattie's Copy Books, the Royal Series of Copy Books.

[The Council does not think it necessary to prescribe a single series of Copy Books, but only to require that one series shall be used exclusively in each School.]

2. Walter Smith's Series [Revised Edition,] Nos. 5, 6, 7, 8, are published as "American Text-books of Art Education."

LIST OF BOOKS RECOMMENDED FOR THE USE OF TEACHERS, BUT NOT PRESCRIBED FOR PUPILS.

(Trustees anxious to promote the physical, intellectual and moral welfare of the pupils in the schools under their charge, will do well to provide their teachers with the undermentioned books.)

Gage's Elements of Physics [Ginn, Heath & Co.]

Huxley and Youman's Physiology and Hygiene.

Dr. Richardson's Temperance Hand Book (McGregor & Knight, Halifax, advertise cheap edition at 30 cents, retail.)

Dr. Edward Smith's Manual of Health (A. & W. Mackinlay.)

Dawson's Handbook of Zoology (Dawson Bros. Montreal.)

N. A. Calkin's (Boston) Primary Object Lessons (Harper Bros., New York.)

NOTE.—Prang's Natural History Series of botanical and zoological drawings and cards is accompanied by an excellent manual of directions. The whole series, with manual complete, can be obtained from A. & W. Mackinlay at \$9.50. Steps are being taken to recommend a cheaper series for the smaller class of schools.

PROVINCIAL EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

By permission of the Council of Public Instructions, the ninth Annual Session of the Provincial Educational Association will be held in St. John, N. B., on one of the days arranged for the meeting of the Inter-Provincial Convention of teachers in that city. Members of the Association attending the latter gathering will be duly notified as to time and place of meeting. There will be no literary exercises of any kind, but all other business will be regularly transacted.

In behalf of Executive Committee.

Halifax, March 29th, 1888. ALEX. MCKAY,
Secretary.

THE PROVINCIAL NORMAL AND MODEL SCHOOL, TRURO.

J. B. CALKIN, M. A., Principal.

Professor of Didactics.....J. B. Calkin, M. A.

" Language and History.....J. B. Hall, Ph. D.

" Mathematics.....F. H. Eaton, B. A.

Lecturer in Natural Science.....H. W. Smith, B. Sc.

Instructor in Industrial Drawing and Calisthenics,
Miss Ottie A. Smith.

MODEL DEPARTMENT.

Intermediate Grades.....Miss Bessie Miller.

Primary.....Miss Ada Lewis.

Copies of Regulations and By-laws of Institution can be at all times obtained on application to the Principal.

The annual session begins November 7th. Formal opening November 16th.

The School of Agriculture in connection with the Provincial Normal School is under the direction of Professor Herman W. Smith, B. Sc., to whom application for the Annual Register Institution should be addressed.

PROVINCIAL EXAMINERS FOR TEACHERS' LICENSES.

History and Geography.....Rev. Thos. J. Daly, A. M.
Mathematics.....D. F. Higgins, A. M., Ph. D.
Language.....Rev. George B. Dodwell, M. A.
School System, Science, &c.....Rev. John Currie, D. D.