

These are not in any sense similar to the old, heavy, dry work, on Grammar. They are manuals of method for the teachers as well as text books for the pupils. Teachers will receive many valuable hints regarding the simple and attractive way of teaching pupils to speak and write English. This subject ought to be one of the most popular with children. It is not usually so, but these volumes will aid in making it so. The neat method of analysis is a feature of the books.

HANDBOOK OF PUNCTUATION. By *W. Cocker, A. M.* New York and Chicago: A. S. Barnes & Co.; 60 cents. A very neat book, containing a clear statement of the general rules recognized by writers of good English, and some differences in usage, with numerous illustrative examples taken from English classics. The work contains, also, concise directions for letter-writing and proof-reading.

THE PRINCIPLES OF ELOCUTION. By *Alexander Melville Bell, F.L.S., etc.* Braintree: Thos. Henderson; \$1.50.

Prof Bell is well known as the author of "Visible Speech," "Principles of Speech and the Cure of Stammering," "Standard Elocutionist," etc. He is the ablest living writer on the voice, its culture, management, etc. The work now noticed is the fourth edition of the book. It was first published in 1849. This edition is revised and enlarged. In addition to the theoretical portions there are a large number of choice extracts marked carefully for the guidance of the student in pronunciation, intonation, emphasis, gesture, and emotional expression.

APPLETON'S READERS. By *William T. Harris, A.M., LL.D.; Andrew J. Rickoff, A.M., and Mark Bailey, A.M.*

Messrs. Appleton never like to publish any work unless they can make it equal, if not superior, to the best of its kind. The rank of the authors of these Readers guarantees their excellence. Dr. Harris is Superintendent of Schools in St. Louis, Mr. Rickoff occupies a similar position in Cleveland, and Mr. Bailey is Professor of Elocution in Yale College. The mechanical execution of the books, paper, binding, typography, illustrations, etc., are so fine as to almost fit them for ornaments of a parlor table. The system of teaching advocated, and the new features introduced into them, will form the subject of an article in the Practical Department of the October number of the JOURNAL.

FIRST LESSONS IN GRAMMAR. By *Dr. Collier.* Edinburgh: Thos. Laurie, 6d. A very elementary grammar, introductory to the author's larger work on the same subject.

KENSINGTON SERIES OF LESSON BOOKS. Edinburgh: Thos. Laurie. These are readers, with lessons for spelling, arithmetic and writing interspersed. The poetical selections are more appropriate than those in many readers, and the prose lessons aim mainly to give information in an attractive form.

JOHNSTON'S ATLASES. London and Edinburgh: W. & A. K. Johnston.

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The firm of W. & A. K. Johnston stand in the first rank as manufacturers of maps, globes, and illustrations of Natural History and Philosophy. Devoting especial and continuous attention to the preparation of maps, it is only natural that they should make them perfect marvels of beauty, accuracy, and cheapness. The smallest of the works above named, costing only three pence, con-

tains better maps than our ordinary geographies. Each of the last three named contains an alphabetical index of all the places named in the maps, giving considerable data regarding each. The Classical Atlas would be an excellent one for High School and University students. For family use, The World is all that could be desired. The maps in the last three are 15 inches by 12. Nos. 4 and 5 cost 8s. 6d. No. 6 costs 5s.

Johnston's maps and illustrations may be obtained at half price by School Boards at the People's Depository.

—We need to follow nearer to the footsteps of our fathers in respect to moral education. We may not ask to have the catechism restored to the school-room, but we ought to demand that children shall be taught the elements of a well-balanced, vigorous moral character; and be taught, also, that character is infinitely higher than scholarship. I know very well you may say that this is approaching debatable ground, and I understand the frequent declamation about sectarianism and the danger of invading the rights of individual conscience—all of which has nothing to do with the subject; for morals are not sectarian, and they who cannot teach morals, and exemplify their teaching by their daily lives, without teaching sectarianism, should never go within the shadow of a school-house,—except as pupils to a moral teacher. It behoves all concerned to remember well that the character and usefulness of the man or woman depend very largely upon the care and culture received in youth; and it is especially incumbent upon teachers to bear in mind the duties that devolve upon them by nature of their office, and for the performance of which parents and the public may hold them responsible.—*Supt. Stone, Springfield, Mass.*

IDEAS go booming through the world louder than cannon. Thoughts are mightier than armies. Principles have achieved more victories than horsemen or chariots.—*Rev. Dr. W. Paxton.*

Departmental Notices.

EXAMINATIONS OF DECEMBER, 1878, AND JULY, 1879.

LIMIT IN HISTORY AND LITERATURE.

I.—FIRST CLASS CERTIFICATES.

Examination in History, July, 1879—

General History—Freeman, chapters 1-5 inclusive.

Ancient History—Special and more detailed study of a particular period: History of Greece from the Persian to the Peloponnesian War, both inclusive.

Modern History—Special and more detailed study of a particular period: History of England; The Tudor Period.

English Literature for the First Class Examinations, July, 1879—

Shakespeare—Macbeth.

Milton—Paradise Lost, Books I. and II.

Johnson—Rasselas.

Macaulay—The Essays on Boswell's Life of Johnson, and Hallam's Constitutional History.

II.—SECOND CLASS AND INTERMEDIATE EXAMINATIONS.

The work prescribed in English Literature for the Second Class and Intermediate Examinations in December, 1878, is Book I. of Milton's "Paradise Lost;" and for that in July, 1879, Book II. of the same poem.

In History, the questions set for candidates for Second Class and Intermediate Certificates will be confined to the leading events of English and Canadian History, also of Roman History from the commencement of the Second Punic War to the death of Augustus.

In French, Chapters I. and II. of Emile de Bonnehose's Life of Lazare Hoche, may be substituted for the part of Souvestre, at present prescribed.

N.B.—In Bonnehose's Hoche, the whole of Part I. and Chapters 1 and 2 of Part II., are required for the latter half of 1878, if Souvestre is omitted.

In Latin, candidates may take Elogues I, IV, VI, VII, and IX. of Virgil, instead of the portion of the Æneid at present prescribed.

III.—THIRD CLASS CERTIFICATES.

The papers on English Literature, to be set for candidates for Third Class Certificates in 1879, will be based on the same selections as in July, 1878.

Toronto, August, 1878.