

Review's Question Box.

A. J. H.—What book or other means would you recommend by which knowledge in regard to insects may be obtained?

The best means is to go and watch them and study their habits. Then, when your interest is aroused, you will need books, if you have no one who knows them intimately to instruct you. The best book that we have seen for beginners is "Morley's Insect Folk," published by Ginn and Company, Boston, in two small volumes. Another very good book for beginners is "Stories of Insect Life," in two parts, by the same publishers.

M. E. F.—(1) In answer to a question of mine in the REVIEW of last November, you refer me to Volumes XXI and XXII of the REVIEW. Where can I see these two volumes?

(2) Please give a complete analysis of the following lines:

"Whate'er the theme, the Maiden sang
As if her song could have no ending;"

(3) If a princess married below her rank, would her daughter be a princess?

(4) Can you give me a list of nouns in Latin of the Fifth Declension that have Nominative and Accusative plural?

1. The Education Departments of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia have the REVIEW on file since its first issue, June, 1887. Many teachers have full sets of the REVIEW. We have separate numbers containing the articles you ask for, price, \$1.00.

2. "Whatever the theme" is connected with "maiden" as a sort of adjective phrase, as we may see by reading it "regardless of the theme the maiden sang." This is the principal clause, with the second line as a subordinate clause—adverbial of manner.

3. No.

4. Acies, effigies, facies, series and spes.

A. M. G.—What is the name given to a person, who composes words, that are not in the language: *e. g.*, Gramalkin means a cat; and by leaving (Gra) off the word "malkin" is left meaning kitten.

Your question is faulty both in spelling and sense.

W. K.—1. Can you name this bird from the following description? About as large as a robin, but not quite so long; brown on top of head and tail; wings, black, crossed with bars of white; under-parts, grayish-white; feathers look very soft and fluffy. About two dozen of these birds were seen in the snow underneath an old apple-tree, in company with a robin, on the morning of January 22nd.

2. Can you tell me why the name "cowslip" was given to the flower of that name; does the shape of the flower have any connection with its name?

1.—Probably Pine Grosbeak.

2.—The origin of this name is in doubt, says an English authority.

Civil Service Examinations.

For the Qualifying Examinations the fee is four dollars. These may be taken at the same time as the Preliminary, the subjects of which were published in the December REVIEW. There are six subjects for the Qualifying Examination,—writing and copying manuscripts, spelling (including dictation), arithmetic, geography, history, composition. The successful competitors at this Examination are eligible for appointment to the offices of landing waiters and lockers in the outside division of the Customs Service; the office of exciseman in the outside division of the Inland Revenue Service; railway and marine mail clerkships, and the offices in the outside division of the Post Office Service. Candidates must be eighteen years of age.

Qualifying Examination—Outside Service.

SPELLING.—Time: 30 minutes.

NOTE.—Copy the following, correcting the errors in spelling; 5 marks will be deducted for every misspelled word in your copy. Value, 50.

The construcion of the Suez canal, though a vast and emportent undertakeing, pressented almost no enjinerig difficulties to be overcome. At Port Said, the Mediteranean entrence to the canal, two great peers, to serve as brakewaters, were built of artefishal stone, projecting into the sea, thus provideing a safe and commoddious harbour. At Suez, the Red Sea turminus of the canal, a less formidable defence was needed, but the necessary docks and buildings called for a considerable outlay.

From Port Said to Suez the land is almost a dead leval, the few sand dunes that break the monnotonous uniformaty of the istmus nowhere reached a greater height than fifty or sixty feet. Along the middle line of the istmus there was a series of depressions, some shallow, and others the bottems of which were lower than the leval of the sea. Although these depresions were at all times dry, yet they were called lakes, and as such figger on the maps. They were found to be thickley incrusted with salt on the bottem and sides, indecating that at one time they had been filled with sea-water, it is indeed most probable that the hole istmus was at a very remoot period entirely submired. In the construcion of the canal these depressions were made to play a very emportent part. The line of the canal was carried directly through them; the shallower were made a sufficent depth by dredging, the deeper were simply filled with water and required nothing more for safe navegation than an indecation of the channel by buoys.