

often give it the worst possible place for indicating the meaning intended.....Sometimes the position commonly given the word by writers is the one universally condemned by critics ; as, 'He *only* painted ten pictures,' for 'He painted *only* ten pictures,' or (for greater emphasis). 'He painted ten pictures *only*.'"

The writer acknowledges that in written discourse the rules of rhetorical construction give valuable aid in guarding one against faulty construction. In oral discourse the "rhetorical pause" generally shows the relation of *only*.

The dictionary then gives the following: "The general rule, so far as any rule can be given, is to place *only* next to the word or phrase to be qualified, arranging the rest of the sentence so that no word or phrase that the word might be regarded as qualifying shall adjoin it on the other side. The sentence, "Only his mother spoke to him," is not ambiguous, for the word *only* must apply to the succeeding phrase 'his mother.' 'His mother *only* spoke to him' is ambiguous in written language, but in speech the inflection would show whether *only* referred to 'his mother' or to 'spoke.' 'His mother spoke *only* to him' would scarcely be ambiguous, because *only* is rarely used in prose immediately after a verb that it qualifies. Yet for absolute clearness 'His mother spoke to him *only*' would be better. It will thus be seen that in applying the rule, the circumstances of each particular case must be carefully considered."

"Like ambiguity often results from the improper disposition of *not only*, *not merely*, *not more*, *both* and *not*, to the use of which the same general directions apply.

"As a final resort, when the resources of position have been exhausted without securing clearness, it is better to change the mode of expression so as to get rid of the refractory word or phrase."—*Educational News*.

### Books Received and Reviewed.

[All Exchanges and Books for Review should be sent direct to the Editor of the *Educational Record*, Quebec, P. Q.]

The *Canadian Magazine* for April is a special Easter number. The matter is as usual excellent, and the many illustrations are admirable. An article of special interest is one on "Social Amelioration and the University Settlement," by S. J. McLean, as is also a paper by Fritz Hope,