

the book of nature, and these little six-year-olds and seven-year-olds were doing thoughtful work, even without the aid of the teacher. They were not only reading from their flowers, they were painting them, writing little stories about them, utilizing them for number, form, and color work, and exercising their powers of observation and thought upon them; and, strange to say, every child was doing nearly all of these things at one and at the same time.

How can these little pupils perform such miracles? There are no miracles involved. The teacher has simply given the children each a box of paints, a brush, and a flower, and had told them to paint the flower and write a story about it.—*Dr. Rice, in the December Forum.*

SUPPLEMENTARY READING.

RIH-DA LEE.

THE surprised and shocked expression that stole over the face of a visitor when entering my class-room a few days ago amused me somewhat. The children were holding their books in a comfortable position and reading silently. There was nothing strange or painful about that. It was not the occupation but the *literature* that caused my old friend to elevate his brows. The books were not the First Reader, part 2nd, that he expected to see, but back numbers of *Wide-Awake* and *Babyland* that I had just received from the publishers. They were particularly bright and attractive numbers, and, of course, it was a little unusual, but after explaining my method of using them, and reasons for so doing, he seemed rather pleased, even expressed a regret that we had not more such magazines. I would go further and express the hope that some day in the primary classes we shall have no two books alike, and instead of a fixed reader, a large collection of stories and story-books suited to children of that age.

One might think there would be a tendency to careless reading in putting books of this description into the hands of young children. There is certainly a danger. Careful reading, accurate thought-getting, is something we must cultivate. Questioning is the only test we can apply at first, but as soon as possible I require my children to write the story in their own words. This is generally done in a rough note-book which is handed in for inspection. Illustrations occasionally accompany the stories, and sometimes these are, to say the least, striking.

Encourage reading at home. How often the Christmas and birthday books are valued only for the pictures and bright covers, even when the children could read and enjoy them with a little application. Let your pupils bring these books to school occasionally, and endeavour to create an interest in the reading matter.

One or two suggestions for drill in word recognition. I have a set of cards each of which contains four or five long words, syllabized and accented. These are distributed among the children who read them to me when recognized.

The cards of another set form a complete story. I supply the outline, and the blanks are filled up by sentences found on the cards.

Word-building is also of considerable value. Let me give an example: The first word placed on the board is *bit*; next, *habit*; then *inhabit*, and lastly, *inhabitants*. *Misunderstanding, representation, uninteresting*, are samples of words that can be built up in this way.

Reading lessons should occasionally relate to current events. The season and everything pertaining to it should form a topic. There is never any scarcity of subjects if we would only look for them.

In closing, I would again urge those who have not already a collection of stories for supplementary reading, to delay no longer. The advantages are plain to all, and there is really no difficulty in obtaining suitable matter. Sunday-school papers may be cut up, "Children's Corner" in periodicals preserved, and back numbers of magazines, such as those mentioned, obtained at very small cost.

Short stories copied on a caligraph or type-writer are very good. Some of the best of this kind I have seen were original stories written by children seven and eight years old, and then copied on a machine.

* Literary Notes. *

Our Little Men and Women for February treats of just the things its youthful readers will want to know. It tells of a little king and his little kingdom, and describes a queer machine in use in "Grandpapa's" day. "Children that live in a Shoe" is a clever lesson in physiology, and the "Three Little Gold-Diggers" is as apt in its way. "A Little Columbian Grandpapa" gives a glimpse of frolic and study, and "How Bergit Forgot Her Christmas-Tree" will set many a little girl to thinking. With its dainty poems, its beautiful pictures, and its stories and verse, the boy or girl who receives this little magazine every month is fortunate indeed. Price \$1.00 a year; ten cents a number. D. Lothrop Company, publishers, Boston.

THE February number of the *Atlantic Monthly* contains several articles of interest, of which the most timely is, perhaps, one by Rev. Julius H. Ward, "The White Mountain Forests in Peril." A very interesting paper is William E. Mead's "Books and Reading in Iceland." Among other articles may be mentioned Albert G. Hyde's "The English Cambridge in Winter;" S. R. Elliott's "The Courage of a Soldier;" Biographical sketches of Count Rumford and the late Thomas William Parsons, by Rev. George E. Ellis, D.D., and Richard Hovey, respectively; continuations of Mary H. Catherwood's "Old Kaskaskia," of Francis Parkman's "The Feudal Chiefs of Acadia," and of Kate Douglas Wiggin's "Penelope's English Experiences." There are, of course, the usual book reviews, and the "Contributors' Club."

Scribner's Magazine for February has a number of illustrated articles on unusually interesting bits of foreign lands. Dr. Henry Van Dyke writes an unconventional travel-sketch, with the title "From Venice to the Gross-Venediger." From a far different outlook, Mr. and Mrs. Blashfield describe "Florence and the Florentine artist" with pen and pencil—the pictures of Mr. Blashfield giving the artistic atmosphere of that most suggestive city. Another paper by the late Marquis de Chambrun (whose pen-picture of Lincoln was conspicuous in the January number), gives his vivid "Personal Recollections of Charles Sumner," with whom he was well acquainted from 1865 to Mr. Sumner's death in 1874. In fiction this issue contains three complete short stories and the second instalment of Mrs. Burnett's charming serial.

Worthington's Magazine for February opens with an interesting paper by J. A. MacKnight, entitled "Brigham Young: A Fair Sketch by One Who Knew Him." When a boy Mr. MacKnight, as a relative of the so-called "Prophet," was a member of Brigham Young's household, though not a favored one, as he was not considered a tractable young "saint." In view of Utah's struggle for statehood, and the general amnesty just granted to Mormons by President Harrison, this article possesses a timely interest; and the numerous beautiful illustrations, reproduced from photographs, admirably supplement the text.

AN important article, entitled, "How to Revise the Tariff," appears in the February number of the *North American Review*, by Hon. W. M. Springer, whose position as Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives gives him the right to speak authoritatively. Among the numerous other articles of interest are, one by Senator Hansbrough, of North Dakota, entitled, "Why Immigration should not be Suspended," and one on the British section at the World's Fair, by Sir Henry Trueman Wood, Secretary to the British Commission.

THE January number of *Canada* contains a story by Prof. Roberts; Nehilakin, an Indian legend; a Battle with an Indian Devil; poems by J. F. Herbin, A. A. Macdonald, Wm. Merlin, and the editor; a review of Fletcher's "Nestorius;" the "Editor's Talk;" "Home Topics," and other miscellaneous matter. Prizes to the amount of \$100 are offered for the best poems and prose articles appearing in *Canada* during the year. A sample copy may be obtained at any time by sending a post-card to the publisher, at Hampton, New Brunswick. Fifty cents a year.

THE February *Popular Science Monthly* opens with an article on "The Glass Industry," by Prof. C. Hanford Henderson. Prof. Spencer Trotter contributes a chatty account of the "Birds of the Grass Lands," with illustrations. M. Paul Topinard sketches the natural history of man under the title "Man in Nature." Prof. C. O. Whitman sets forth the need of a "A Marine Biological Observatory." Prof. E. P. Evans returns to the attractive subject of animal intelligence, describing "The Aesthetic Sense and Religious Sentiment in Animals." M. Berthelot writes on "Science as a Factor in Agriculture." Other articles are: "The Habits of the Garter Snake," by Alfred G. Mayer; "Ghost Worship and Tree Worship," by Grant Allen; "Number Forms," illustrating some of the curious operations of the human mind, by Prof. G. T. W. Patrick; "Science Teaching," by Frederick Guthrie; "The Trepanng" (illustrated); "Prehistoric Trepanning." "The New Star in the Milky Way," "The Discovery of the Sexuality of Plants," and a sketch of Robert Boyle, with portrait. New York: D. Appleton & Co. Fifty cents a number, \$5.00 a year.

D. C. HEATH & Co., Boston, have added to their series of English classics, "Select Speeches of Daniel Webster," edited, with notes, by Prof. A. J. George. This book is intended as a companion volume to, "Burke's American Orations," which was prepared by the same editor and published a year ago.

THE complete novel in the February *Lippincott*, "The First Flight," is by Julien Gordon. It deals satirically with the ambitions of a daughter of wealthy parents, not quite "to the manner born" socially, and is illustrated. The Journalist Series is continued in an interesting article by Hon. John Russell Young, on "Men Who Reigned: Bennett, Greeley, Raymond, Prentice and Forney." Portraits of these famous editors are added, and one of Secretary Seward accompanies "Recollections of Seward and Lincoln," by James Matlack Scovil. Karl Blind, a well-known authority on the politics of the Old World, discusses "The Russian Approach to India." Among other articles which invite attention, M. Crofton, in "Men of the Day," describes Ruskin, Earl Rosebery, Archbishop Ireland and Justice Lamar, and "Josiah Allen's Wife" supplies a short story, "Josiah's Alarm." The poetry of the number is by Ella Wheeler Wilcox, and five or six other workers of the muses.

THE characterization, *The New Education*, is applied by its votaries to that body of educational doctrine exemplified in its first stages by the kindergarten, higher by object-teaching, sloyd and