

As the picture bears the same relation to the object that the written work does to the spoken, the pictorial representation may be used as a kind of *busy work*, after the work with the objects, in order to more fully fix the idea in the pupil's mind.

These purely objective exercises should be followed by exercises in which the groups of objects are not

seen, but easily imagined; such as: John having 5 doves, 3 doves flew away; how many were left? Mary spent 3 cents for a lead pencil, and 2 cents for a slate-pencil; how much did they both cost?

In all this work, the pupils should be required to give a clear and definite expression of the operation performed.

GEOGRAPHICAL NOTES.

CHINA offers about as attractive a field for the work of professional explorers as any other country on the globe. It has recently been ascertained that the Chinese coal-fields occupy an area of four hundred thousand square miles.

THE GULF STREAM.—From recent observations, Captain Pillsbury finds that the strength of current of the Gulf Stream is invariably on the Florida, instead of the Bahama, side of the stream. He has found the temperature of the stream to range from 42 to 81 degrees. The greatest velocity of the stream at the surface is about four and a half knots, but the fluctuations are frequent and great.

THE Yukon, the great river of Alaska, stands seventh among the rivers of the world. It takes its water from an area of 200,000 square miles, and its total length is 2,044. For 1,000 miles it flows through a country very little known; an expedition under the direction of Lieutenant Schwatka set out from San Francisco in 1883, and thus much valuable information about the geo-

graphy of the country through which the Yukon flows has been obtained. The severity of the extreme north latitude in many parts of Alaska, as in British Columbia, is greatly modified by the warm ocean currents coming from the China Sea.

GOLD FINDS IN THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS.—Reports from the Selkirk Range of the Rocky Mountains in British Columbia state that gold has been found in the beds of all the streams running from the eastern slope of the Selkirks into the Columbia River. On Canyon Creek, lying a few miles south of the junction of the Kicking Horse and Columbia Rivers, several parties were to be seen washing gold from the bed of the creek, and making good wages. Further down the river were three mining camps, with two men in each, preparing new flumes for placer mining. They acknowledged that two of their party had a few days previously washed out twenty-five dollars' worth of the precious yellow metal in one day. Mineral prospects there, both placer and quartz, are said to be superior to anything seen before in these parts.