

Clarence L. Moore, M. A., F. R. S. C., has been appointed Dean of the Nova Scotia Normal College Faculty, known as the Rural Science Teachers' Training School. This School has now virtually three terms each year: September to Easter, in the Normal College (winter term); Easter to end of June, in the Normal College, special biological course (spring term); July and August (summer term.—vacation course).

RECENT BOOKS.

A book that arrives at an appropriate moment, when our thoughts are being so strongly directed towards agricultural education in the schools, is *Rural Arithmetic, a course in Arithmetic intended to set children thinking on home and its improvement*, by John E. Calfee, Professor on Mathematics at Berea, Kentucky. The book purports to touch the important phases of farm management, and gives practical problems taken from every day farm life. The book contains useful information for farmer and housekeeper and has good illustrations and diagrams (Giun & Co., 30 cents.)

We have received from the same publishers a very interesting history of *American Literature*, by William J. Long. The plan of this book seems an excellent one. It is in five chapters, each dealing with a period of American Literature beginning with the Colonial Period. At the end of each chapter is a summary, a list of selections for reading, a bibliography, and a very full set of questions and suggestions for research. It is an admirable book for High School or College Classes, or for Reading Clubs. The style is interesting and clear, and the illustrations good. The chapter on Emerson strikes us as particularly discriminating and useful. (Ginn & Co., \$1.35, 481 pages.)

The *Preliminary English Course*, A. M. Walmesley, M. A., can be very strongly recommended to teachers who want help, suggestions and material for English Composition. It is intended for a course in Grammar and Composition for intermediate grades, but the grammar is subordinate to the composition, and there is much more constructive work than there is analysis. There is a great deal of material for constructing sentences, and for reproduction and paraphrasing. A most useful little book. (University Tutorial Press, 160 pages, 1s. 6d.)

The publishers of the "Peeps" series are now bringing out "Peeps at Great Steamship Lines" and have sent us the story of *The Peninsular and Oriental*. In a lively style, the author, G. E. Mitton, describes a modern steamship, the Overland Route, the Suez Canal, gives the history of the Peninsula and Oriental and tells us something about the various ports entered. The really beautiful coloured illustrations add a great deal to the appearance of the book. We recommend it for interesting supplementary reading, or for a prize or gift book. (A. & C. Black, London, 88 pages, 1s. 6d. net.)

A good little book on *Laws of Health for Schools* comes to us from the same firm. This is one of the Edinburgh Medical Series and is written by A. M. Malcolmson, M. D. It is simple, clear and practical in its information and instructions. It contains directions on the care of the skin, hair, nails and teeth, as much elementary instruction

in anatomy and physiology as is essential to our understanding of the laws of health, and a chapter on the causes and prevention of infection. (88 pages, 35 illustrations, 1s. 6d.)

Would that all the children in our schools could have put into their hands such delightful books as the *Sentinel Readers*. The coloured illustrations in Books I and II are enough to charm any child. The reading in Book I is chiefly fairy or nature stories, interspersed with good and simple verse. In Book II, the first selection is an account of Polar expeditions, being in the story of Scott and Captain Bates. The books have been compiled, says the editor, "to be a medium not only of awakening intelligence and imparting knowledge, but of widening the sympathies of boys and girls in all humane directions." (Book I, 143 pages, 10d. Book II, 441 pages, 1s. Edited by E. E. Speight, A. & C. Black, London.)

WITH THE MAGAZINES.

St. Nicholas issues this month its fortieth anniversary number. To one who can remember the charm of it when it was only five years old, it seems to have lost nothing with age, even though in looking back we recall the contributions of Louisa Alcott, Susan Coolidge, Mark Twain and Frank Stockton. This number has a delightful paper under the heading "More than Conquerors" on Sir Walter Scott, his home, his books, and the struggle that made him a hero. In "Books and Reading," the subject this month is "Oliver Cromwell." Teachers who are looking for supplementary reading to interest their classes should see what *St. Nicholas* has to offer.

The Century for November has great variety in both articles and stories. "The Glowworm" by Henri Fabre, author of "Social Life in the Insect World" is very interesting not only for the information it gives, but as an illustration of the patient loving method of study of a real naturalist. The case for the Feminists is put by Edna Kenton in an article called "The Militant Women—and Women." John Corbin writes on "College Democracy" which, he contends is better maintained in Oxford than at the great American Colleges. Mrs. Burnet's story "T. Tembarom" is drawing to an end which will obviously be satisfactory.

The Canadian Magazine is truly Canadian this month, and full of value to teachers of Canadian history and geography. "The Glory of the Shannon" by Professor Macmechan, the story of the famous sea-fight with most interesting illustrations; "Chateauguay and de Salaberry," by Francis R. Carman, "Canoe, Sail and Stream" telling of early navigation on the Great Lakes, are all full of useful information.

The cream of the best English Reviews and Magazines is to be found in *Littell's Living Age*. "The Welding of the Empire" by Sir Gilbert Parker, in the number for October 18, is a picturesque review of the development of the great Dominions, especially Canada. Timely articles are on "Blundering Social Reform," "The Balance of Power in Europe," and "Some Problems of American Foreign Policy." Lovers of Dickens will enjoy the papers by Rowland Grey and Dr. Spriggs on "The Boys of Dickens" and "The Medicine of Dickens."