

A. F.—Is "Kocale" a misprint for *Kocah*, the Arabic name for *Beta Ursæ Minoris*, in the January article "Among the Constellations?"

Ans.—It is; "b" was read "le."

E. J. L.—"Can you give a lesson on digestion for the school-room?"

Ans.—We give one.

#### LITERARY NOTES.

Dr. Honeyman, F. S. Sc. (Lond.), F. R. S. C., of the Provincial Museum, Halifax, has published notes of discoveries of Atlantic sponges in the *Presbyterian Witness*.

The *Pietou News* is publishing an anonymous serial—"The MacDonald Family," dealing with topics of to-day, which exhibits much literary power.

Bliss Carman is about to publish in Fredericton, N. B., a limited edition of an elegy by himself, on Matthew Arnold. It is to appear in the form of a trilogy, and to be printed on large vellum sheets.—*The Bookmart*.

Mme. Marwedel, the distinguished kindergartner, of Washington, D. C., and more recently of San Francisco, Cal., has prepared a series of games and charts for home and school use, based on the most approved principles of kindergarten training, and intended to connect manual training with the home and primary school. These games and charts are also arranged to teach form and color. D. C. Heath & Co., Boston, will publish the valuable aids at once.

Many educators, who would be glad to use science in the training of young pupils, if they knew just how to go about it, will be interested in the practical directions given in an article on "Natural Science in Elementary Schools," by J. M. Arms, to appear in the March *Popular Science Monthly*. Mr. Arms writes with a full appreciation of the true aims of science teaching, and from an experience of ten years in the work.

Sir Walter Scott's *Lay of the Last Minstrel*, an edition of which, edited and annotated by J. E. Witherell, is to be published by D. C. Heath & Co., Boston. It will be accompanied by a map, expressly prepared to illustrate the poem.

The Rev. Arthur C. Waghorne hopes to be able, next year, to treat of the berries and fruits of Newfoundland in a much larger work. He has also in preparation a complete list of the flora of Newfoundland and Labrador, as far as it is known. He hopes this may be published the coming summer. Hitherto, the most complete list has been that of Mr. Reck's, which only comprised 371 species besides varieties. Mr. Waghorne's contains 900 species of flowering plants, about 50 ferns and over 250 mosses and lichens. His list gives the common English, and as far as it is known, the common Newfoundland names; affords indication of color of flowers, time of flowering, and usual place of growth, and specifies those which are found on the Labrador coast, and there, as well as in Newfoundland, and notes which are found in Great Britain. It also includes the flora of St. Pierre and Miquelon.

#### BOOK REVIEWS.

A COURSE OF EASY ARITHMETICAL EXAMPLES for beginners. London: MacMillan & Co., and New York. This is a series of well arranged examples in the ordinary rules of arithmetic, which the teacher may use with advantage as an excellent supplement to the text-book.

CLASSICS FOR CHILDREN: TOM BROWN AT RUGBY. Ginn & Co., Boston, publishers. Few books have had a better influence in helping to form the character of boys than Tom Brown of Rugby. To introduce such a book in school with the excellent notes that this edition contains, is to cultivate in boys a taste for sound reading, to give a health and stimulus to school life, and to help to form character.

SCHOOL DEVICES, a book of Ways and Suggestions for Teachers, by Shaw and Donnell. New York: E. L. Kellogg & Co., publishers. Every teacher who wishes to give life and freshness to school work, should secure this book. It has bright suggestions on topics for the school-room, which are the results of a long experience in teaching. Such a book, judiciously used, cannot fail to be of great assistance to a teacher.

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE HISTORY OF EDUCATIONAL THEORIES, by Oscar Browning, M. A. New York and Chicago: E. L. Kellogg & Co., publishers. A book like this, introducing the teacher to great minds that have worked in the same field, cannot but be a powerful stimulus to him in his work. No better ideals could be presented to him than such masters as Comenius, Pestalozzi, Froebel and others.

TESTA: A BOOK FOR BOYS. Boston: D. C. Heath & Co. This book is a translation from the Italian, by the Italian class in Bangor, Me., under the supervision of Luigi D. Ventura, their instructor. It contains excellent reading, not only for boys, but their parents and teachers.

GILL'S SYSTEMS OF EDUCATION. D. C. Heath & Co., publishers, Boston, Mass. This is an excellent book for the teacher's library. It presents education as a science, which should be studied if success is to be achieved.

ALLEN AND GREENOUGH'S LATIN GRAMMAR; a new edition revised and enlarged. Boston: Ginn & Co., and London. Students of Latin will welcome this revised edition of an excellent grammar. Such additions and improvements have been made in the text as the advance of grammatical knowledge and the experience of the school-room have shown to be advisable. Statements of principles have been simplified without sacrificing scientific accuracy, while, for convenience of reference and general reference of text, it is a great improvement on previous editions.

PRIMARY WRITING, by Mara L. Pratt. Boston: Eastern Educational Bureau. Price fifteen cents.

This is an ingenious method of teaching the elements of penmanship to young children. The method is based upon a careful description of what is to be done, which is given in such a way as to create an interest—indeed, an enthusiasm on the part of the children in the work before them. Many primary teachers will find this little device extremely useful, saving them much time and trouble.