

LESSONS IN CHEMISTRY. By William H. Greene, M.D., Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott & Co., 1884.

THIS is one of the very best text-books on Elementary Chemistry with which we are acquainted. The author is evidently a man of experience in the work of science-teaching, and the soundness of his views thereon may be judged from the following extracts from his preface: "The object of a limited course in chemistry is not to make chemists of the pupils, but to teach them what chemistry is, what it has accomplished, and what it may accomplish. No greater mistake can be committed than to endeavour to make the facts of chemistry dependent upon its theory. Chemistry is peculiarly a study of observation, and it should be taught as it has been developed, first by the careful examination of facts, then by the theoretical explanations suggested by those facts." The common sense views thus laid down have been steadily adhered to throughout the book, the literary style of which is, by the way, exceedingly good.

A noticeable feature of the work is the very considerable space devoted to the carbon compounds, the treatment of which, though not by any means exhaustive, is sufficiently full to give the young student a very fair conception of this important field which is now engaging the attention of so many practical men.

The practical suggestions in the appendix, in regard to the preparation of experiments, will be found very useful to the teachers.

A TREATISE ON ELEMENTARY TRIGONOMETRY (new edition revised).

A TREATISE ON HIGHER TRIGONOMETRY. By the Rev. J. B. Lock, M.A. MacMillan & Co., 1884.

Of the former of these two works we have already had occasion to speak favourably when noticing its first edition. In the present edition, "a short course has been indi-

cated for the use of students who wish to reach the solution of triangles as early as possible;" there is added also a good and brief selection of questions on the solution of triangles.

The more advanced treatise completes the subject, as it is usually read in our schools and colleges. The author is to be congratulated on the compact and comprehensive manner in which he has presented the subject, combining the best features of Colenso and Todhunter in their similar works; giving and also explaining several terms lately introduced, such as the hyperbolic sine and cosine. Geometrical illustrations are happily introduced, and the reader will find quite a number of fresh problems for solution.

STORIES FOR YOUNG CHILDREN. By Elizabeth A. Turner. Ginn, Heath & Co., publishers: Boston, New York, and Chicago.

THIS little book, like all the work of Ginn, Heath & Co., is beautifully printed and gotten up. It is intended as a kind of supplement to the ordinary reading books in primary classes.

CLASSICS FOR CHILDREN, The Water Babies, A Fairy Tale for a Land Baby. By the Rev. Charles Kingsley. Edited and abridged by J. H. Stickney. Ginn, Heath & Co.

SIX volumes of the "Classics for Children" have already been published, including "Robinson Crusoe," "The Merchant of Venice," and "The Lady of the Lake." We sympathize very strongly with the object of the series—to introduce school-children between the ages of nine and fifteen years to good English literature, and thereby to cultivate their taste and give them a love for the best kind of reading. It is just what we all want. No words of ours are needed to praise the work of Canon Kingsley. "The Water Babies" is a fine story; and, though we do not altogether like the editor's "abridgments," after all they are unimportant.

SAND PLAINS ON THE OTTAWA RIVER.—It may be new to some of our readers to hear that in the northern part of the Ottawa Valley there are many sand plains, varying in extent from half an acre or even less to

an immense area measured by miles. These plains have probably been formed in the course of ages by the washing down of sand which is constantly accumulating on rocks and in the beds of rivers.—*Exchange*.