

lines of real geographical study. The order of topics is as follows: "Past and Present Aspects of the Earth," "Climate," "Plants Which Have Affected Man," "Animals Which Have Affected Man," "Man," "Commerce." Each of these subjects is developed in a number of lessons. The book is an interesting one and will be found useful in preparing class-work.

The *Advanced Fourth Music Reader*, by J. M. McLaughlin and G. A. Veazie (Boston: Ginn & Co.), which is intended for use in Grammar and High Schools, contains many good songs and studies. The mechanical execution is excellent.

*Alfred de Musset* (Boston: Ginn & Co.). We have here portions of the prose and poetical works of Alfred de Musset, selected and edited by L. Oscar Kuhns. The editor is of opinion that more attention should be devoted to the purely literary side of modern language teaching, and has prepared this book in accordance with that view. We have an interesting Introduction, chiefly biographical, and good notes. In the latter, parallel passages are frequently quoted from French and English authors.

*Elementary Composition and Rhetoric*. By William E. Mead, Ph.D. Boston: Leach, Shewell and Sanborn. This is a brief and practical treatise on Rhetoric and Composition. The author is an experienced teacher and the book is the product of his experience. Great attention is paid to the development of themes, and the arrangement of the matter shows careful work. The examples and exercises are especially good.

*School English*. By Geo. P. Butler. New York: The American Book Co. This text-book on Rhetoric and Composition contains some thirteen chapters on the subjects usually included in an elementary course in Rhetoric and is remarkable for the number and appropriateness of the examples and exercises. The

chapter on "Figures of Speech" is one of the best in the book. A good many exercises in False Syntax are given, and as an aid to class work it will, we feel sure, be found of considerable value.

From MacMillan & Co., London and New York, through the Copp Clark Co., Toronto:

I. *A First Step in Euclid*. By J. G. Bradshaw, of Clifton College.

II. *Elliptic Functions*. By A. C. Dixon, of Queen's College, Galway.

III. *The Planet Earth*. By R. A. Gregory, F. R. A. S.

It is a "far cry" from "A First Step" to "Elliptic Functions." The former presents, with many illustrations, examples and preparatory steps, the ground covered by the first twelve propositions of the first book of Euclid and is certainly "Euclid made easy." With such a text-book as this Euclid might be commenced at a very early age. But will the "hopeful" ever get to "Elliptic Functions," that is the question. There is a danger in making everything easy. The accomplished author states that the object of the latter work is to supply the wants of students, who, for reasons connected with examinations or otherwise, wish to have a knowledge of the Elements of Elliptic Functions, not including the "Theory of Transformations" and the "Theta Functions." Besides an "Introduction," and an Appendix on the "History of the Notation of the Subject." The writer deals with "The Periods" "The Related Moduli" "Addition of Arguments" "Degeneration of the Elliptic Functions," "Geographical Representation," etc. This is a scholarly and important work.

Prof. Gregory, who is an Oxford University Extension Lecturer, has produced a brief, yet clear and comprehensive introduction to Astronomy and Geography under the title *The Planet Earth*.