

pupils too young either to understand or to utilize them.

Owing to the slow process of eliminating the traditional elements from this subject, we do not find a modern text which fulfils all the requirements. The following texts will indicate the modern tendencies in this subject, and may prove helpful to teachers:

LEWIS: Complete Applied English Grammar (Macmillans).
BOEHLER AND HOTCHKISS: Modern English Lessons (Newson & Co., N. Y.)

BOEHLER: A Modern English Grammar with Composition.
SCOTT-SOUTHWORTH: Lessons in English; Books I and II, (Sanborn & Co., Boston).

KITTREDGE AND ARNOLD: The Mother Tongue; Books I and II (Ginn & Co.)

A Rainy Day Game.

Teachers who find it difficult to maintain order in the schoolroom at noon when the weather does not admit of play outdoors, may find in the Guessing Game enough spirit to hold interest.

Let the pupils choose sides. The leader of the first and his companions select some short word which rhymes with several that are easily acted out, and announces to the opposite side a word with which it rhymes.

We will suppose it to rhyme with *seer*. Members of side No. 2 consult among themselves and then commence to cry.

"No; it is not *tear*," is the response.

Then all put their hand back of the ear and listen intently.

"No; it is not *hear*," says leader No. 1.

All approach line No. 1.

"It is not *near*," is the response.

All start back as though alarmed.

"No; it is not *fear*," replies the opposite leader.

All march in line back of No. 1.

"It is not *rear*."

One in line No. 2 embraces another.

"It is not *dear*," returns the other side.

All shade the eyes with the hand and look intently.

"Yes; it is *peer*."

Tally of the number of guesses may be kept on each side, and prizes given.—*Popular Educator*.

Flowers of trees are very small;
Growing high on branches tall,
If you wish these things to see,
Look up in the elm tree.

Five Minute Object Sermons to Children.

New Revised Edition. 253 pp., silk finished cloth, gold top, \$1.00 net. By Sylvanus Stall, D.D. The Vir Publishing Co., 1304 Land Title Building, Philadelphia, Pa. William Briggs, Toronto.

In this little book, "Five Minute Object Sermons to Children," there is much to be said in favour of a plan that seeks to interest children in the sermon and church service. The plan is to give a five-minute sermon or object lesson to the children of the congregation as an introduction to the regular sermon, illustrating the talks by some familiar objects. But it is to the lessons drawn from some of this "material" that we enter a strong protest. On one occasion the author holds up a beautiful bouquet gathered in a hot house or carefully tended garden; then a bouquet gathered from the wayside in the fields and in the woods. He doubtless gathered the meanest flowers he could find, for the presentation of the latter "bouquet" excites the laughter of the children. He calls these "weeds," and goes on to say: "Here is a rose with a single leaf that grew in a neglected corner, along the outskirts of a wood. It is a genuine rose, but it is by no means pretty, or at all to be compared with those in the other bouquet." . . . "Now, these other flowers which I gathered in the fields and along the roadside, and in the woods, have had a hard time of it," and he goes on to speak of the difficulties they have had to contend with. The moral he draws is this, that boys and girls are very much like flowers. If they are "nursed" like garden or hot house plants, they grow up Christians. If they are neglected or have to meet and overcome their own difficulties, "nothing very beautiful, or very good, can reasonably be expected from them." Surely no reverent student of nature would draw a moral like that. The flowers that grow by the wayside, in the hedgerows and woods, are beautiful. The wild rose which he thinks is not at all to be compared with the cultivated form is a beautiful flower; so are the flowers of the fields and woods—more beautiful, many of them, than hot house plants, and they cheer the great heart of the multitude. The forced plants of the hot house wither when the "nursing" process is withdrawn; the former withstand chill and storm, are nourished by God's own hand, multiply abundantly and decorate the waste places of the earth.

Illustrations, to be effective, should be true in fact. In one place, he says: "In one of the object