

"It has been assumed throughout this book, that, other things being equal, the knowledge is of most worth which touches the pupil's daily life at the most points, and therefore, enables him to understand his own environment."

The author strongly advocates allowing the pupils the use of whatever apparatus is necessary to en-

able them to master the work they are undertaking.

Of course it is not to be expected that this full course could be taken, except by those who continue the work into the Fourth Form of the High Schools, but for the lower grades of certificates a proportionate amount of this course should be required.

### BOOKS AND MAGAZINES.

To accommodate readers who may wish it, the publishers of THE CANADA EDUCATIONAL MONTHLY will send, postpaid, on receipt of the price, any book here viewed in these columns.

The *Atlantic Monthly* for April contains an unusually interesting account of "The Household of a Russian Prince," by Mary Louise Dunbar. It is seldom that a lady is afforded such a complete view of the domestic life of that country, or is able to give such a plain and vivid account of what she has seen. "Penelope's Irish Experiences" are concluded in the same number; and there is also a striking tribute paid to the acting of Mrs. Fiske in one of the articles of the Contributors' Club.

There are a number of good short stories in the April *Scribner's*—"The Union and Billy Bell," "Skipper," by Sewell Ford, and "The Marvels of Science," by George Hibbard, but the best of them is a story of the cod fisheries, "A Chase Over Night," by James B. Connolly, which moves with a spirit of delightful fun.

"Mark Twain: More Than Humorist," is the chief article in the *Book Buyer* for April. It is written by R. E. Phillips, who seems to be a most thoroughgoing admirer of all Mr. Clemens' work. "Huckleberry Finn" is likely to be reckoned as a work of genius; but "A Yankee at King Arthur's Court" is not.

The fourth paper in "Careers of Danger and Daring," by Cleveland Moffatt, at present appearing in *St. Nicholas*, deals with "The Pilot." Canadian children will be specially interested with this account of the skill and courage of their own countrymen. The illustrations give scenes on the St. Lawrence and the Nile.

Fra Elbertus, of the *Philistine*, discourses earnestly on the evils of backbiting in the March number. He describes this plague, however, as "Chicago Tongue."

Mr. Grant Allen left an unpublished article on "The British Aristocracy," which appears in the *Cosmopolitan*. It is to be supposed that the editor intends this as encouragement to the reform of Britain and not as a retribution, but it would appear otherwise to the casual reader. "The Montgomery Invincibles," an amusing short story, by Henry Guy Carleton, is splendidly illustrated by E. W. Kemble.

"Dolce," a charming story, by John Luther Long, author of "Madame Butterfly," appears in the April *Century Magazine*. The third number of Augustine Birrell's