

THIRD BOOK OF THE ROYAL READERS

SPECIAL CANADIAN SERIES.

QUESTIONS AND SUGGESTIONS.

1. INVITATION. P. 9.

EXPLANATION OF THE LESSON.

The poet asks us to go with him to the old woods while they have still their serious face on :	Oh, come away to the grave old woods
before the dawn has begun to break ;	Ere the skies are tinged with light,
before the sleeping leaves have put off their gauzy wrappers of mist ;	Ere the slumbering leaves of the gloomy trees Have thrown off the mists of Night ;
before the birds have raised their heads from their downy pillows ;	Ere the birds are up,
before the little flower's cup is emptied of the dew ;	Or the floweret's cup Is drained of its fresh'ning dew,
before the distant brook can yet be seen lightly touching the hill as it comes down ;	Or the bubbling rill Kissing the hill, Breaks on the distant view ;
It is at this early hour we feel the solemn influence of the woods ;	Oh, such is the hour To feel the power Of the quiet, grave old woods !
then, while the slothful are still in the midst of some uneasy dream,	Then, while sluggards dream Of some dismal theme,
let us begin the day, in the spirit of prayer, with a walk in the darkened woods.	Let us stroll With prayerful soul, Through the depths of the grave old woods.
Again, the poet invites us to visit the woods when the wrinkled old trees no longer look dark and gloomy, but wear a joyous smile :	Oh, come away to the bright old woods,
for now the sun has risen ;	As the sun ascends the skies,