

A PEN WORTH RECOMMENDING.—We have been favored with samples of the celebrated Spencarian Double Elastic Steel Pens, and after trying them feel justified in highly commending them to our readers. They are said to be made of the best steel, and by the most expert workmen in England, and have a national reputation for certain desirable qualities which no other pens seem to have attained in so great perfection, among which are uniform evenness of point, durability, flexibility, and quill action. It is thus quite natural that the Spencarian should be preferred and used by professional pen-men, in business colleges, counting-rooms, government offices, public schools, and largely throughout the country. Indeed, so popular have they become, that of the 'Number One' alone, as many as eight millions are sold annually in the United States. The Spencarian Pens may be had, as a rule, from any dealer; but, when not thus obtainable, the agents, Messrs. Alexander Buntin & Co., 345 St. Paul Street, Montreal, will send for trial, samples of each of the twenty numbers on receipt of twenty cents.

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#### BOOK NOTICES.

RHYMES OF SCIENCE: WISE AND OTHERWISE. With illustrations. New York: Industrial Publication Company.

This is an amusing little book, containinn among other rhymes 'Sir Thomas the Good'; 'A Story of Science,' with the moral 'whether a thing is large or small depends on the way you view it'; and 'The Philosophical Chicken,' who is supposed to say: 'What I can't understand I won't believe in. Where *did* I come from then? Ah! Where, indeed? This is a riddle monstrous hard to read.'

THE ILLUSTRATED JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE, published by the Department of Agriculture for the Province of Quebec. Monthly, \$1 a year. Address Ed. A. Barnard, 10 St. Vincent St., Montreal.

This is a very useful and practical Journal, and every one who cultivates even a garden or fruit trees, or keeps poultry or a cow should receive it, as it treats upon and is a sure guide in all these things.

FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE STATE BOARD OF HEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS. Boston: Hand, Avery & Co.

SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE STATE BOARD OF HEALTH OF MICHIGAN. Lansing: W. S. George & Co.

THIRD ANNUAL REPORT OF THE STATE BOARD OF HEALTH OF WISCONSIN. Madison: David Atwood.

These reports are all large volumes, and as usual are filled with highly instructive matter of great value to the public, in whose interest they are published. We wish thousands of them were circulated in Canada.

STATE PREVENTIVE MEDICINE. First annual address to the State Board of Health of Connecticut. By J. S. Butter, M.D., etc., President. Hartford: Case, Lockwood and Brainard.