

TEACHERS' DESK.

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Recent Publications.

(Continued from January No.)

On subjects not noticed in January, the year 1874 gave *Italy and Germany of Freeman's Historical Course for Schools*, and Cox's *Crusades* belonging to the *Epoch Histories*. Both these series are excellent and will be most valuable to teachers. Hughes' *Geography of British History* supplies a long felt want. Young's *Physical Geography* in Collins' *Advanced Science Series*, takes rank above any other elementary work we have seen on the subject. Its fault, if it be one, is exceeding brevity on many subjects. Cook's *Principles of Chemical Philosophy* and Oliver's *Illustrations of the Principal Orders of the Vegetable Kingdom* need no recommendation other than their authors' names. *Qualitative Chemical Analysis and Laboratory Practice* by Thorpe and Muir (pp. 238) is an admirable little manual, simple in plan and clear in treatment. *Hygiene of Schools* by Dr. Budgett should be read by every teacher. By the way he states that "300 cubic feet of space should be allowed to every pupil," (pp. 30.) We hope Dr. Budgett's little manual is but a sign of an awakening to the extreme importance of this subject,—*the sound body*.

By some strange oversight Chaucer's *Trioresser Tale*, &c., edited by the Rev. W. W. Skeat, was omitted from our English list last month. The long promised translation of Mætzner's English Grammar has at last been published, 3 vols.

Many other excellent works, especially in the Physical Sciences, were published during the year, but we find ourselves unable to express any opinion on their individual or comparative merits, and to give a mere 'Bookseller's List,' is not our object.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

CON. O'GORMAN, *White Lake*.—Consult Sangster's National Arithmetic on Simple Interest. *True Discount* as it is called in some works on Arithmetic, not being what is meant by *Discount* in commercial circles or in fact the *Discount* of the

English language, had better be called *Inverse Interest*. This it really is, the other it is not. We have long purposed writing to you and hope soon to find time.

ALEX. MCINTOSH, *Pinkerton*.—We shall endeavor to furnish solutions hereafter. Mr. Fraser is right. "The passage of artillery," is a phrase that any well educated military man would say has nothing to do with the discharge of the pieces. Have you ever heard at a little distance the sound of an empty lumber waggon, driven at a sharp trot over a dry stone road? The morning is the best time to listen.

PROBLEMS.

84. What is the meaning of *merry* in the phrase "Merry England." (Will the proposer be so kind as to send *authorities*, as the Editor finds a different meaning?)

H. T. SCUDAMORE.

85. A commission merchant sold a consignment of goods on 3 per cent. commission, and was instructed to invest (on 2 per cent. commission) in other goods, the commission for both transactions to be deducted in advance. His entire commission was \$265. Find the value of the goods he purchased.

ALEX. MCINTOSH, *Pinkerton*.

86. If a board 12 feet long and 1 foot wide be cut diagonally from corner to corner, at what point between the ends of one of the triangular pieces must it be cut across parallel with the wide end so as to be divided into parts of equal area?

HENRY GRAY, *Sombra*.

87. A ladder, whose weight may be regarded as a force acting at a point one-third the length from the foot, rests with one end against a peg in a smooth horizontal plane, the other end on a wall, the point of contact with the wall dividing the ladder into segments, whose lengths are as 1 to 4. Given that the ladder weighs 120 lbs. and makes an angle of 45° with the horizontal plane, find the pressure on the peg, and the reaction of the wall.

R. SHEPHERD, *Strathroy*.

EDITOR'S DRAWER.

STRAY NUMBERS.—We take great care in mailing the "TEACHER," but nevertheless some copies do go astray. In all such cases we remain it when notified promptly.

CONTRIBUTE!—We ask teachers, Inspectors, and other friends of education to send us short practical articles, and items of educational intelligence.

CHANGING POST-OFFICE.—Teachers changing their Post Office should always state the Post-

Office from which, as well as the one to which they wish to change. Neglect in this respect gives us a great deal of unnecessary trouble.

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