

MACAULAY'S BOSWELL'S LIFE OF JOHNSON, by R. F. Winch, M. A. Pages 131; price 2s. 6d. Publishers, Macmillan & Co., London and New York. This is an excellent annotated edition of Macaulay's essay on Boswell's Life of Dr. Johnson. If one has read Boswell, he will read this with a keener interest, deriving much assistance from the suggestive notes.

THE ADVENTURES OF HATIM TAI. Revised and edited with introduction by W. R. Alger. Pages 326; price 50 cents. Publishers, Ginn & Co., Boston. This delightful romance is published in "Classics for Children," a series that has done very much to adapt and provide wholesome reading for young people. The general character of this romance is like the Arabian Nights Entertainments. The story is fascinating, abounding in startling adventures, and no reader can rise from the perusal of the book without quickened impulses for good.

HEART OF OAK BOOKS, edited by Charles Eliot Norton. D. C. Heath & Co., publishers, Boston. This series, comprising six reading books, attractive in contents and finish, is an ideal series in its way. It draws freely from the standard imaginative literature of the English language, a literature with which every child should be familiar, as it has stood the test for centuries, and has done much to stimulate the fancy and direct the thought and sentiment of the best men and women of the English speaking race. A series of books like this will do very much to direct the taste of children and promote a healthy development of the imagination.

THE ART OF PUTTING QUESTIONS. A pamphlet containing many useful and suggestive hints on this important phase of school work. Published by C. W. Bardeen, Syracuse, N. Y. Price 15 cents.

THE ARDEN SHAKESPEARE: *Macbeth* and *As You Like It*. Price 40 cents each. D. C. Heath & Co., Boston, publishers. These two volumes in Heath's "Modern Language Series" have been before us for some time. They are handsomely printed and bound, convenient for study, with critical notes on the text, a glossary, an introduction containing the sources of the play, etc., and an index. They are edited by competent English scholars, who aim to present the plays of Shakespeare in their literary aspect, and how best to interpret them, not merely as material for the study of philology and grammar. Other plays will be issued shortly. The plan and execution of this series will commend them to students.

THE NATIONAL DRAWING COURSE, by A. R. Cross. Publishers, Ginn & Co., Boston. In this course there are drawing books for the 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th years. These books presuppose some preliminary teaching. They begin with outlines of simple objects and designs. Much attention is given to the historic development of art, beginning with Egyptian. There are in each book about twenty-five pages of neutral tinted paper of excellent quality. There are appropriate direc-

tions regarding instrumental perspective and free-hand drawing, and many beautiful illustrations of the works of master artists. For the first three years there is a set of elementary cards to be used with a transparent drawing slate. With the use of this slate young children very soon learn the difficult lesson of seeing the characteristic lines of objects on the flat. A box of skeleton models is also provided for the course. By simple devices they can be combined so as to represent all the primary forms. For the use of teachers there are manuals on "Primary Lessons" and "Grammar Lessons," also treatises on Mechanical Drawing, Free-hand Drawing and Color Study. Taken all together this forms by far the most scientific and practical course in drawing that we have ever seen.

SOUTHEY'S LIFE OF NELSON. Edited with an Introduction and Notes, by Albert F. Blaisdell, x + 242 pages, price, 50 cents. Ginn & Co., Boston, publishers. This edition of Southey's masterpiece in the "Classics for Children" series is more particularly intended for school use. The editor has prepared an introduction and supplemented the text with a suitable number of notes. A few passages which have little or no interest at the present time, have been omitted. No alterations have been made in the wording, and the text stands as it was originally written by Mr. Southey, with the exceptions mentioned.

May Magazines.

In *McClure's* for May Dr. W. W. Keen describes the Use of the Rontgen X Rays in Surgery, showing that while the organs of the body enclosed in bone have not yet been successfully skiagraphed, on account of the impermeability of the bones to the rays; yet that the bones themselves have been very successfully distinguished, and on that account successful surgical acts that could not otherwise be performed may be accomplished. . . . In the *Forum* for May are two timely articles, —Is the Power of Christianity Waning? No! By Dr. H. J. Carroll, who had charge of the religious census, and The Cultivation of Vacant City Lots, by Mr. M. A. Mikkelsen, describing the successful results in New York of this novel plan for relieving the unemployed. . . . An out-door flavor is given to the May issue of the *Atlantic Monthly* by Mrs. Olive Thorne Miller's Whimsical Ways in Bird Land, another of her bird papers which have won for her a wide reputation as an acute observer and graceful writer, and Pandean Pastimes, an out-door study of Spring from a child's standpoint, by Mrs. Fanny Bergen. . . . In the *Popular Science Monthly* for May Natural Science in a Literary Education is the subject of an article by Prof. A. H. Tolman, who maintains that only a one-sided training can be had without science. . . . In recent numbers of *Littell's Living Age* there have been some capital educational articles—Recent Science, Rontgen's Rays, The Baltic Canal, and how it came to be built, an Educational Interlude, The Philosophy of (Examination) Blunders, On Some Books for Boys and Girls. The price of this excellent weekly magazine, formerly \$8.00, is now only \$6.00.