

RECENT BOOKS.

In "Rambles in an Ancient Colony"¹ Mr. James Rupert Elliott has given us entertaining glimpses of scenery and life in Newfoundland. In book one he describes a journey across Cabot Straits from Cape Breton to Port aux Basques on the south-west corner of the Island, thence by rail to St. John's. The book is illustrated with photographic views and vivid pen pictures of the marvellous scenery of the journey; while his reflections on the many anomalies that the island furnishes are striking and thoroughly enjoyable.

Heath's Home and School Classics² are designed to furnish reading for children, carefully selected from the best literature with as little change or omission as possible. The books noted below have just been published and are the first of this series. To judge from these they will prove a delight and a source of instruction to the young people for whom they are intended. They are published at a low price, in strong paper covers, and illustrated with simple, well drawn pictures.

Any author who will write a text-book on English composition which will help a teacher to arouse and maintain an interest in this subject may justly be regarded as a benefactor. The best attempt that we have seen in this direction is a well planned and exceedingly practical course in composition³ published by the Copp, Clark Company, Toronto. Every page is suggestive; and it is as different from the usual dry-as-dust treatises on composition as can be imagined. It begins by giving short models, carefully graded and arranged, carrying the pupil through the chief stages of narration, description, exposition and argument. These models are interesting in matter and literary in tone—fables, Bible stories, myths, historical incidents, etc.—giving the pupil an interest in his sub-

¹ RAMBLES IN AN ANCIENT COLONY: TERRA NOVA. Book I. By James Rupert Elliott. Published by the author. Boston, 1900.

² THE WONDERFUL CHAIR AND THE TALES IT TOLD. Edited with introduction and notes by M. V. O'Shea, Professor of Education in the University of Wisconsin. In two Parts. Illustrated by Clara E. Atwood after Mrs Seymour Lucas. 96 pages each. 10 cents each.

JACKANAPES. By Juliana Horatio Ewing. With introduction by W. P. Trent, Professor of English at the University of the South. Illustrated by Josephine E. Bruce. 64 pages. 10 cents.

GOODY TWO SHOES. Attributed to Oliver Goldsmith. Edited by Charles Welsh, author of "Notes on the History of Children's Books," "A Life of John Newbery," etc. Illustrations after the original edition by M. L. Peabody. 64 pages. 10 cents.

HAMERTON'S CHAPTER ON ANIMALS—*Dogs, Cats, and Horses*. By Philip G. Hamerton. Introduction by W. P. Trent, Professor of English in the University of the South. With illustrations after Veyrassat Van Muyden, Landseer, Rosa Bonheur, and others, by E. H. Saunders and D. Munro. 96 pages. 15 cents.

SHAKESPEARE'S THE TEMPEST. No. 1 of The Beginner's Shakespeare. Edited by Sarah Willard Hiestand. Illustrations after Retzsch. Portrait by Chandos. 110 pages. 15 cents.

D. C. Heath & Co., Publishers, Boston, Mass.

³ ELEMENTARY ENGLISH COMPOSITION. By Frederick Henry Sykes, M.A., Ph.D. Pages 224. Cloth. Price 40 cents. For Public and High Schools. The Copp, Clark Company, Ltd., Toronto, Publishers.

ject and furnishing material for thought. The advanced lessons are carried out with the same skilful plan in view, forming a systematic course in composition suitable for the higher grades in the public schools.

The last of three little volumes containing a course of experimental work on the elements of physics and chemistry has reached us¹. The whole series has for its object, not so much to convey information, as to cultivate observation and to develop a scientific habit of thinking in pupils. The teacher who makes a careful study of these practical and useful volumes should be helped to do some very effective teaching; and bring pupils in relation with everyday phenomena in a way that will cultivate the observing and reasoning faculties.

Prof. Berger's new method² for learning the French language rapidly is simple and ingenious. The lessons are well graduated and entertaining. The verbs in particular receive attention; and the rules for pronunciation are clear and effective.

The student of German is under obligations to D. C. Heath & Co. for the many excellent and low priced books which have been published in their Modern Language Series. The German Reader for Beginners³ is especially valuable, as it seeks to overcome a difficulty which meets every student in beginning to study a foreign language, viz., the acquiring of a vocabulary. The author, Prof. Huss, boldly places before the young student Grimm's Law, maintaining that an early familiarity with its leading principles will be of service in recognizing the origin, meaning, and kinship to English words, of thousands of German words. "Let no one think," he says, "that this is beyond the grasp of the juvenile mind. If the teacher starts from the familiar fact that the *th* of many English words has become *d* in the negro dialect, as e. g., in *dem* for *them*, and then states that precisely the same correspondence exists between English *th* and German *d*, any child will at once understand the formula *th=d*." As learners apply this and other simple principles of the same law their interest is aroused and they are greatly encouraged by discovering the close resemblance between German and their own tongue. The exercises throughout the book keep this end constantly in view. In title page, binding, clearness of text, the book is a model one.

The two smaller volumes noted below contain plays, simple in language, interesting in character and incident, and most advantageous to give the young student practice in reading and fluency in speaking.

¹ ELEMENTARY PHYSICS AND CHEMISTRY. Third stage. By R. A. Gregory, F.R.A.S., and A. T. Simmons, B.Sc. Pages 114. Cloth. Price 1s. 6d. London: Macmillan & Co., Publishers.

² F. BERGER'S FRENCH METHOD. By François Berger. Pages 190. Cloth. Price 75 cents. Published by the author, 853 Broadway, N. Y.

³ A GERMAN READER FOR BEGINNERS. By H. C. O. Huss, Professor of Modern Languages and Literatures in Princeton University. Pages 208. Cloth.

NEIN. Von Roderich Benedix. Edited, with Notes, Vocabulary and Exercises, by Arnold Werner-Spanhoofd. Pages 69. Price 25 cents.

ER IST NICHT EIFERSUCHTIG. *Lustspiel in einen Akt*. Von Alexander Elz. With a vocabulary by Benj. W. Wells, Ph.D. Pages 57. Price 20 cents.

D. C. Heath & Co., Publishers, Boston, Mass.