

has had experience in teaching, and in teaching just such a class of pupils as we have in the High Schools of Ontario. The method he adopts, and the way in which he presents the subject, are the only ones practicable in our class-rooms, if the teaching of chemistry is to have any value. "This method contemplates," to quote the author's words in the chapter addressed to the teacher, "didactic instruction by the teacher; a good text-book, and as many books of reference as possible; much work by the student, who should keep a careful record of all work done, and who should recite frequently; and work by the teacher, either in the presence of the class, when the class is large, or personal directions to the student when the class is small." The more important elements, non-metallic and metallic, with their principal inorganic compounds, are briefly described, and the pupil is made acquainted with their characteristic properties and reactions by a series of simple experiments to be performed by the teacher before the class, or in some instances, where circumstances permit, by the pupil himself. The experiments chosen are such as best illustrate the subject under consideration, without, at the same time, requiring the use of such appa-

ratus as is to be found only in the best equipped laboratories of Europe. While proper attention is paid to the presentation of the facts of the science, due account also is taken of chemical theory; and the theories of Dalton and Avogadro, with their more important bearings, are very fairly dealt with. Especially commendable for clearness and simplicity is the chapter devoted to Binary Compounds, Acids, Bases, Salts, Chemical Nomenclature and Equations. The subjects perhaps least satisfactorily discussed are the Laws of Chemical Combination, the determination of Atomic Weights, and the definition and classification of the Metals. But the faults in these respects are not serious, and do not much impair the usefulness of the book; for they give a chance to the competent teacher to impart such supplementary instruction on these points as may best suit the requirements and capacity of his class. The most noteworthy, and probably the best, feature of the work is the attention given to such matters as will cultivate the pupil's own powers of observation and give him a personal interest in the science. We therefore heartily commend it to the science teachers and pupils of Ontario as an efficient and reliable text-book.

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Our readers will observe that special attention has been given to the examination papers of this year in the July-August, September and October numbers of the Magazine; in many cases hints and answers are given, and for several papers solutions have been furnished to all the questions. We hope subscribers and others will show in a practical way their intelligent appreciation of the valuable work done by the editors of the different departments of **THE MONTHLY**.

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