

taking of producing a text book in Algebra. The composition of the Elementary Algebra shows unmitigated signs of haste; the algebraic element, much thought and skill. The literary part of the High School Algebra is more finished, showing traces of the "beaten oil," and the algebraic part is not inferior to that of the other book. The High School Algebra has a decided advantage in this respect—that the answers are given. Much attention comparatively is given in both of these books to "theory of divisors" and "symmetry," the author of the elementary introducing this feature at a very early stage; the authors of the High School Algebra more gradually and at a later stage. We would say that a better plan is to reserve the formal treatment of symmetry, etc., until the scholar has a fair knowledge at least of quadratic equations. This is the teaching of our experience, and this is sustained by the most recent work on Algebra published in Britain. We are much gratified by the evidence of Canadian scholarship and enterprise given by these books.

LONGMANS' SCHOOL GEOGRAPHY. By Geo. C. Chisholm, M.A., B.Sc., Fellow of the Royal Geographical and Statistical Societies. London: Longmans, Green & Co.

Parts I. and II. of this work, entitled respectively "Mathematical Geography," and "Physical Geography," are satisfactory and complete. Part III., entitled "Description of Continents and Countries," containing upwards of sixty illustrations, gives a large amount of important information. There is not too much space devoted to Canada, and the information conveyed in the space which is allowed to that country is not too accurate. But it is "illustrated" by a "Lumbering Scene," wherein are shown two miserable-looking men in fur coats, with their hands in their pockets. No member of THE MONTHLY staff has yet been able to understand the rest of the picture. We also learn (page 283) that "the Lake Peninsula, which lies between Lake Huron (with the

Georgian Bay) on the one side and Lakes Erie and Ontario on the other, has an area of *less than 20,000 square miles*, and yet, at the last census, contained about two-sevenths of the entire population of the Dominion, *even though it had not a single town with 20,000 inhabitants.*" (The italics are ours.) We shrink from the task of explaining what mistakes these are; but we extend a respectful invitation to Mr. Chisholm to come and see "the Lake Peninsula," and enjoy the luxury of feeling as the Queen of Sheba did, and we hope that our good friends the publishers will on his return issue a revised edition of their geography. An intelligent subject of the Empire stands aghast at such mistakes as those above referred to.

"WE will now resume our studies."—*Dombey & Son.*

"Go and be something logical directly."—*Hard Times.*

THE last number of the *American Bookseller* (10 Spruce St., New York,) contains an important list of educational works.

MR. JOHN LOVELL, of Montreal, has recently issued a prospectus of a *Encyclopedic Gazetteer and History of Canada*. THE MONTHLY looks forward with the greatest pleasure to the appearance of such a valuable national work, and hopes that many of its readers will send for the prospectus, and thus have full and accurate information in regard to Mr. Lovell's proposed undertaking.

IN the October number of *Shakespeariana* it is proposed to open a School of Shakespeare, under the guidance and direction of eminent Shakespearian scholars. This announcement, we are sure, will be of interest to many, and will add to the value of our esteemed contemporary. (Walnut Street, Philadelphia: \$1.50 per year.)

THE *Citizen* (D. C. Heath & Co.) is a new monthly of promise, aiming to promote "good government through good citizenship." It has an able corps of contributors, and its articles are instructive and practical.

THE *Political Science Quarterly*, another new publication, has been received with