

John has 3 apples and James has 4 apples ;
how many apples have John and James ?

Pupils write,

$$3 + 4 = 7.$$

I gave 6 cents for an orange and 4 cents
for a peach ; how many cents did I spend ?

$$6 + 4 = 10 ; \text{ or}$$

$$6 \text{ cts. } + 4 \text{ cts. } = 10 \text{ cts.}$$

Write five problems upon the blackboard,
and have pupils write as above. As soon as
possible have pupils read problems from
books, using the primary arithmetic pre-
cisely as you would use any other reading
book.

THE next step is to give pupils the figures
and have them write sentences. The teacher
gives orally $5 + 3$, $6 + 3$, $2 + 5$, and the
children write rapidly :

$$5 + 3 = 8,$$

$$6 + 3 = 9.$$

$$2 + 5 = 7.$$

Teacher writes questions on board opposite
the class, thus :

$$4 + 3,$$

$$7 + 2.$$

Have pupils copy and fill out.

Change *less* to *-*, and proceed in sub-
traction as you have done in addition. Show,
for instance, 8 sticks ; separate them by
taking 3 in one hand.

Teacher—What have I done.

Pupils write

$$8 - 3 = 5.$$

Write several columns of sentences in this
way, follow by giving oral problems, then
written problems, problems from a book
then figures alone.

CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE.

COMPANION TO THE FOURTH READER.

It was the proud boast of the Minister of Education, when vindicating the issue of his new Readers, that they would cost less than either of the series formerly produced as independent ventures ; but the appearance of a " Companion to the Fourth Book " raises the cost of the official Readers by an additional sixty cents, thus making them, by at least half-a-dollar, dearer than any series formerly in the market.

True, this " Companion " is not an authorized volume, and, therefore, the Minister is not directly responsible for its appearance ; but if the Fourth Ross Reader had been all that it ought to have been, and such as at least the corresponding book of the Royal Canadian Series is, and as, to a great extent, is that of the Gage Series, this so-called " Companion " would have been wholly unnecessary. That the honourable gentleman is very indignant on account of the " Companion's " publication is easily ex-

plicable ; but it is wholly in vain for him to worry, or fume, or storm, or to issue prohibitory mandates regarding such a book. The baldness of his departmental books rendered the preparation of " Companions " a positive necessity, and if we may judge from the looseness, the inaccuracy, the crudeness, the defects and miserable arrangement of the volume before us, other " Companions " will speedily make their appearance.

One would naturally enough conclude that the editors of a work would be especially well qualified to annotate it, and we confess to a feeling of great disappointment, in finding that this, which is almost the only original work they have performed in connection with the new Readers, has been so badly done.

It would probably be unjust to say that these gentlemen, when preparing the new Readers, purposely did their work in such a manner as to make the preparation of a note-book a prime necessity ; still there must have been some misunderstanding between them and the Minister, or else the honourable