

BERG NEIDECK VON W. H. RIEHL, with introduction and notes, by C. B. Wilson, M. A., Ginn & Co., Boston, pp. 86., price 35 cents. This is an interesting story under the form of an historical novel, "The hero is a German school-master whose innocence, purity and idealism make the reader love him." The text is well suited for sight reading for second and third year students. Eighteen pages of judicious notes help the beginner over difficulties.

GUIDE TO THE STUDY OF COMMON PLANTS, by Volney M. Spalding, Professor of Botany in the University of Michigan, pages 246; price 85 cents; publishers D. C. Heath & Co., Boston. This is a good work for pupils of the high school or to students who have some elementary knowledge of plants. Beginning with the seed it takes up the growth of the plant, from the seed onward to the fruit. The greater part of the work is taken up with observations on the natural groups of plants beginning with the lowest forms, proceeding to the flowering plants, of which the principal families and their characteristics are described. The work is valuable from the fact that from beginning to end it is made up of practical exercises, based on the study of the plants which must be in the hands of the student.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Schiller's Wilhelm Tell, with introduction and notes by Robert Waller Deering, Ph. D., Boston, D. C. Heath & Co., publishers.

Practical Methods of Microscopy, by Charles H. Clark, A. M. Publishers D. C. Heath & Co., Boston.

A Brave Baby and other stories by Sara E. Wiltz, Ginn & Co., publishers, Boston.

Principles of English Composition, a text-book for senior classes of elementary schools and for pupil teachers, by P. Goyen, Inspector of schools. London, MacMillan & Co., New York.

Theory and Practice of Teaching, by David P. Page; *Memories of Ascham and Arnold*, by James H. Carlisle. C. W. Bardeen, Publisher, Syracuse, N. Y.

The April Magazines.

In the Contributor's Club of the *Atlantic Monthly* a writer recalls with evident longing the old fashioned country school, where there was no "getting through" no "grading" no "course of instruction."

Mrs. Florence Earle Coates contributes to the *April Century* a biographical and critical paper on Matthew Arnold, dealing with his literary and religious influence; and a portrait of Mr. Arnold, engraved by Tietze, is published as the frontispiece of the number.

In *St. Nicholas*, "The True History of the Flood" is a delicious bit of satire at the expense of a certain "Jacky" who forgot to turn off the water, and thus caused the bath-tub to overflow during the prolonged absence of his family from the city. It will repay reading by all who are severe upon boys for such faults.

In the *April Forum*, President G. Stanley Hall, of Clark University, publishes the first of a brief series of articles on real university work in America, and our facilities for training higher teachers, in which he speaks very frankly, even radically, of present educational methods and tendencies.

In *Littell's Living Age* for April 7th, there is a very interesting and instructive article on "The Significance of Carbon in the Universe" by Sir Robert Ball, F. R. S.

The personality of a famous man can at times be brought delightfully close to us, and this is particularly true of the picture we get of Nathaniel Hawthorne in his youngest daughter's description of "My Father's Literary Methods," in the *March Ladies' Home Journal*.

In this era of cheap magazines it has not been found necessary to reduce the price of *The Chautauquan*, for it has long been one of the cheapest and best of our monthly periodicals. Its contents always abound in attractiveness. Its illustrations comport with its contents, and its contributors are among the most accomplished writers in the world. In the twelve numbers of *The Chautauquan* there are no less than fifteen hundred pages of solid reading matter. The subscription price of *The Chautauquan* is \$2 00 per year. In clubs of five or more, to one address, \$1.80. Meadville, Pa., Dr. T. L. Flood, Editor and Proprietor.

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