

half a cent per annum during the school life of the average pupil. Who is prepared to say that this additional expense is not made up a hundred times in the improved quality of the books, their arrangement, excellence, etc. Let me submit the following comparisons—for after all the price of a book is largely a matter of comparison—to show the relative prices of the new series with those previously authorized or prepared.

Authorized Series.	Pages.	Cost.	Cents per 100 pages.
Gage's.....	752.....	\$1 31.....	17½
Royal	972.....	1 50.....	15½
Royal Canadian.....	955.....	1 80.....	18¾
New Readers	976.....	1 35.....	13¾

Or, let me put it in another way: The average price of the series discarded is \$1.53; the price of the new series is \$1.35, shewing a difference of eighteen cents in favour of the new series.

I have already said that the price of a book is largely a matter of comparison. Let us then compare the price of some of the new series of Readers with other books authorized, of which large numbers are sold annually. The primer of Canadian history contains 180 pages and is sold for thirty cents, the new Reader (second book) contains 184 pages and is sold for twenty-five cents. Morris' Grammar contains 215 pages and is sold for twenty-five cents, has no illustrations and can be run through the press at three times the rate of any illustrated book. The Epoch primer contains 139 pages and sells for thirty cents. Kirkland & Scott's arithmetic contains 185 pages and sells for twenty-five cents. These comparisons shew that in regard to books that have been on our authorized list for many years our Second Reader, containing an equal number of pages, is much cheaper and at the same time of superior typography and binding.

Again, if we compare our books with those published in the United States, it will be seen what an excellent bargain we have made for the public. Allow me to submit a few comparisons in tabulated form: