

RECENT BOOKS.

There is a growing desire among Canadian schools for suitable supplementary reading. The Educational Book Company of Toronto has recently met this wish by the publication of a series of readers which, for suitability of reading matter and wealth of illustration, it would be difficult to excel. *The Progressive Road to Reading*, Books I-III, are filled with stories attractively told and illustrated, consisting of legends and folk-tales of real literary value, and sparkling with life and action. If one will take the opportunity to read the stories of Book I to some little folk of his acquaintance, he will find how absorbed they will become in the recital. The child is soon inspired to read for himself the classics of childhood.

The *Art Literature Readers*, Books I-III, are based upon the attempt to relate art and literature to education. Here we have the choicest literature joined to the reproductions of the most famous artists. Each author's and artist's work has been grouped in order to emphasize his personality, and give the child an opportunity to read a connected story of his life. We might dwell more on the contents of each book, but it is sufficient to say that they will prove a delight to children, and lead to that close association between art and literature which, begun in childhood, will ripen into greater zest and appreciation in later life. (The Educational Book Company of Toronto.)

Regional Geography: The World is an attractive book, clearly printed with an abundance of half-tone illustrations. The subject is treated in an interesting way. The book deserves to be well known among teachers. Throughout the volume stress has been laid on the main differences in structure, relief, climate, and on the influence of these physical facts on the scenery of countries and the life of the inhabitants. All through the text the descriptions are varied with characteristic sketches of races, peoples, the *fauna* and *flora* of the different countries, and other noteworthy matters. Altogether it is an excellent book for the right study of geography. (Cloth; pages, 360; price, 3s 6d. Adam and Charles Black, Soho Square, London, W.)

In *Fine and Industrial Arts in the Elementary Schools*, Professor Walter Sargent discusses drawing, design, and constructive activities, points out the relation of each subject to industrial education, and presents a plan for coherent progression through the grades. The standard of attainment for each grade is suggestively treated. There are specific problems and many drawings. No other book discusses more clearly the function of the fine arts in the elementary schools or gives better assistance to teachers. (Cloth; pages, 132; price, 75 cents. Ginn and Company, Boston, Mass.)

A late edition of *Palgrave's Golden Treasury* has just been issued by Messrs. Ginn & Company, of Boston. In order that this anthology may serve in more personal ways as a survey of English poetry, a biographical account of each writer has been furnished, with the circumstances of the composition of each poem, when those circumstances are of peculiar interest. A somewhat extended introductory essay explains the general principles of the

lyric, as distinguished from other literary types, with particular attention to the kinds of lyric found in this collection. There is also a biographical sketch of Palgrave, the original editor of the anthology. (Cloth; pages, 466; price, 50 cents. Ginn & Company, Boston.)

The *Introductory American History* presents to pupils of the sixth grade a clear, connected account of the history that preceded the discovery of America, showing in a very simple way the heritage that this country started with. The knowledge of old world civilizations is essential if the learners of history are to have a proper perspective for their later study. There are emphasized three or four lines of development in the world's history leading up to American history proper. First, there was the movement of conquest or colonization by which the ancient civilized world, originally made up of communities like the Greeks and Phœnicians in the Aegean and Eastern Mediterranean Seas, spread to southern Italy and adjacent lands. The Roman conquest of Italy and of the barbarian tribes of western Europe expanded the civilized world to the shores of the Atlantic. Within this greater Roman world new nations grew up. The migration of Europeans to the American continent was the final step. The book is the outcome of a plan for the better study of history in elementary schools, and cannot fail to win the consideration of teachers. (Cloth; pages, 264; price, 60 cents. D. C. Heath & Co., Boston.)

In the little book, the *Elementary Quantitative Analysis*, the requirements are met of the London University Intermediate Science and Arts and similar examinations. The methods used in finding the quantitative composition of a substance are investigated. A considerable number of problems are given and brief instructions for their solution are used. These form an effective test of the student's work. (Cloth; pages, 122. The University Tutorial Press, London.)

Man and His Conquest Over Nature is a book intended to supplement the text-books of geography. It aims to supply the kind of information which teachers wish to put before their scholars, but which they find difficult to obtain in a condensed and readable form. The secret of success in teaching geography is to make it interesting, and in this book the teacher has a ready means of doing so. (Cloth; pages, 183; price, 2s. Adam and Charles Black, Soho Square, London, W.)

In *Philips' Explanatory Five-Class Arithmetics* there is abundant scope for practical and oral work. They are graded on a progressive system. There are numerous simple illustrative diagrams, with clear print and bold distinct figures. Teachers' books with full notes and hints accompany the set, which consists of seven books in paper covers. Books 1, 2 and 3, price, 2s each; Books 4-7, 3s each. (Geo. Philip and Son, 32 Fleet Street, London.)

A series of laboratory test Cards, for the convenience of science students for first, second and third years. The price of each is 1s. (The University Tutorial Press, London.)

Messrs. Ginn and Company, Boston, announce that Frye's *Leading Facts of Geography*, reviewed in the June number of this paper is also published in two volumes, for the convenience of those who prefer a two-book course.