

interesting and engaging mental content. The reading lesson, they hold, should convey a story, and one which the child shall be competent to visualize. Among many good features, we note in the early grades the marking of occasional troublesome vowels and of silent letters, a practise which we highly commend. Even where these books are not prescribed as regular text-books, they will prove valuable and delightful as supplementary readers.

#### A LITTLE GATEWAY TO SCIENCE: HEXAPOD STORIES

By Edith M. Patch: the Atlantic Monthly Press, Boston

This little book on insects runs thru 178 pages of very fascinating information concerning our familiar friends, the butterflies, the bees, the moths, the leaf hop-

pens, the fireflies and the like. The life-history story is told with all the intimacy of a personal anecdote and with the romance and glamour of a fairy tale. The text is not too difficult for Grade IV, and will certainly be easy reading for Grades V and VI. The illustrations, which appear to have been made expressly for this volume, are of rare merit. The type is large. At the end of the book, there follows a chapter of suggestions to teachers for obtaining the co-operation of the children in caring for insects while carrying them thru their life stages, the plain object of the book being to develop in pupils an intimacy with and an interest in the insect world. For the teacher's special benefit, there is also appended a list of reference books. In conclusion, it should be said that grown-ups can read this book with profit and enjoyment.

(Continued in March issue.)



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