

praise, How our teachers should take thought of these words, which are to be found in the author's justification of the plan he has pursued to interest his students: "I have sought to interpret the poem by illustration rather than by mere statement or reference, believing that, in the study of language, nothing makes a truth more real as to see its actual use in the expression of thought," not to speak of the great classic's *chef-d'œuvre* itself, we have no hesitation in recommending this text-book as the very best possible for the student of German, after he has worked his way through the grammar and a little ordinary German prose.

MACMILLAN'S ENGLISH CLASSICS.—We have had occasion to speak of this edition of classics for schools in the highest terms of praise. Those of our teachers who have procured the earlier volumes of the series should add the following which have just been received:—Shakespeare's *King Lear*, with introduction and notes, by K. Deighton; *Gray's Poems*, edited by Dr. John Bradshaw, Inspector of Schools, Madras; Shakespeare's *As You Like It*, by K. Deighton; and Scott's *Lay of the Last Minstrel*, edited by G. H. Stuart, M.A., and E. H. Elliot, B.A., of Madras. All of these books add to the reputation of the excellent series to which they belong.

HEROIC BALLADS, collected and edited with notes, by D. H. Montgomery, and published by Messrs. Ginn & Company, Boston. This is the last addition to the Messrs. Ginn's *Classics for Children*, and a better collection for school purposes could hardly be made.

LESSONS IN BOTANY, a revised edition of Dr. Alphonso Wood's excellent text-book on this branch of Natural History, edited by Dr. Oliver R. Willis, and published by the Messrs. A. S. Barnes & Co., New York and Chicago. The book itself is well known, and the new edition is more than likely to add to its popularity as a text-book on the structure and growth of plants.

MECHANICS FOR BEGINNERS, by the Rev. I. B. Lock, M.A., of Gonville and Caius' College, Cambridge, and published by the Messrs. Macmillan, of London. There are few mathematical teachers who are not familiar with Mr. Lock's mathematical works, and this new work of his on Dynamics and Statics is sure to be examined with care. Such a subject can only be brought within the clear comprehension of the youthful student by a system of well-graded examples, which lead from one stage of reasoning to the other, and this is involved in the plan pursued by Mr. Lock perhaps more than by any other author we know of. The book is modern in its arrangement, the stages being easy, though not altogether elementary.

POLITICAL ECONOMY, by Professor Gide, of the University of Montpellier, France, translated by Edward P. Jacobsen, formerly of University College, London, with introduction and notes by Dr. James Bonar, and published by the Messrs. D. C. Heath & Co., Boston, U.S. As the work of an author who is acquainted with