

The average price of the series discarded is \$1.53 ; the price of the new series is \$1.35, showing a difference of 18 cents in favour of the new series.

The following statement will show the price of some of the most popular

AMERICAN READERS.

	Pages.	Price.	Cents per 100 pages.
Wilson series.....	911	\$1.79	19½
Sheldon's, New York.....	890	1.92	21½
Swinton's, New York.....	922	1.80	19½
Appleton's, New York.....	694	1.72	24½
McGuffey's, Cincinnati.....	656	1.39	21
Barnes' New Reader.....	894	1.75	19½
Lippincott's.....	818	1.57	19
Collins' (English).....	694	1.22½	17½
Collins' (Progressive).....	692	1.10½	15½

It is quite evident from these figures that the new readers are cheaper than any furnished by the trade either in Great Britain or the United States.

COST OF PREPARING THEM.

The new readers cost.....	\$18,686
Gage readers (½ less in size) cost.....	19,175
Nelson readers cost.....	25,000
Royal Canadian readers cost.....	31,843

Practically the readers will cost the treasury nothing, for, besides the amount received from the publishers already for the plates and the amount to be paid hereafter for renewals, the whole outlay will be met, and in addition there is the far more important consideration, viz.: the educational effect of text books unsurpassed either in the United States or Great Britain.

CHANGES OF TEXT BOOKS.

It is said : You are changing our school books very often. Let me explain. In the case of readers there have been only two changes in 39 years. The Irish National series was used from 1846 to 1867 ; the old Canadian series from 1867 to 1884. In some schools the Gage and Royal readers were introduced in 1883, but their use was not general. It is quite probable the present series will last the remainder of this century ; so there is very little ground for complaint in regard to readers. Now, in the case of other text books, the trustees have the matter in their own hands. By section 207 of the Public Schools Act no change can be made in the text books used in any subject without the concurrence of the inspector and the trustees. So if you have changes you are yourselves to blame. If you observe the law, then there need have been no change in the arithmetic since 1869, in geography since 1877, in grammar since 1877, in history since 1875, in algebra since 1865, in geometry since 1838, in chemistry since 1875, in physics since 1875. That is to say since Dr. Ryerson retired from office the only text books generally used which were forced upon you by the Department were a grammar, a geography, and the Readers. This is certainly a fair degree of permanence.