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BOOK REVIEWS.

The *Canadian Almanac* comes from Messrs. Copp, Clark Company, Toronto, in the sixty-first year of publication, fresh and full of information as usual. It is not easy to imagine how any one who has to look up references about Canada, the provinces, and many about the empire, can get along without this useful compendium. Its educational information gives facts about the colleges, normal schools, agricultural and other schools, and bureaus of education throughout Canada that could not easily be obtained elsewhere. Its commercial, statistical and financial facts must prove invaluable to any business man, while its general information on almost every conceivable point in which people are interested is compressed within 500 pages (nearly) of closely but clearly printed matter. Price, 50 cents.

Modelling in Relief is a beautifully printed and clearly illustrated book, by Dora Pearce, principal of the Streat-ham Hill School and Kindergarten, London, published by Geo. Philip & Son, 32 Fleet Street, London. Its aim is to give brief, but accurate, directions for conducting lessons on raised map modelling in clay, the better to develop ideas of countries, of high and low lands, and also to make children more proficient in touch and manipulation of material, and to develop their powers of observation and capability of doing. Price, 2s. net.

Black's *Picture Lessons in English*, Book III, is a well conceived attempt to suggest by coloured illustrations topics for composition writing for young children, and also to lead pupils to acquire insensibly elementary notions of grammar. There are fourteen page illustrations in colour, followed by suggestions for combining facts relating to them into sentences. Price, 6d. A. & C. Black, Soho Square, London, W.

The development of the form of the *Short-Story* is very successfully treated by Professor Brande Matthews, Columbia University, in a series of twenty-four specimen stories, combined in one volume (cloth, pages 399; price, \$1.00). The earlier tales presented are not true short-stories; each of them lacks one or another of the essential characteristics of the type. The more modern examples are true short-stories selected from the chief modern literatures, English, French, German, Russian and Norwegian; and they present many contrasting shades of local

colour. The introduction traces the growth of the form through the history of literature and seeks to set forth the attainment of the type. The notes prefixed to the several specimens outline briefly the biographies of the authors, and discuss succinctly their literary position. The American Book Company, New York. Morang Educational Company, Limited, Toronto.

Eddy's *Text-Book in General Physiology and Anatomy* (cloth, pages 521, illustrated; price, \$1.20) is the latest and most progressive work on this subject for schools. Physiology is treated as a study of function in living forms, and as a part of the training in biologic science, and not as an isolated subject. The physiological processes are presented as activities common to all living matter, and much space is given to the comparative study of function in the animal forms other than man. Such a method of treatment permits the work to be used to supplement the study of zoology and botany. The teaching of recent biologic science is recognized in the prominence given to the cell and protoplasm as the structural and physiological units. The American Book Company, New York. Morang Educational Company, Limited, Toronto.

RECENT MAGAZINES.

In the *Chatauquan* for January, article number five of the Great American Scientists' series is devoted to Samuel Pierpont Langley, the late secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, whose death nearly two years ago deprived the United States of one of the greatest of her scientific men.

In the Contributors' Club of the *Atlantic Monthly* for February there is an article on the Folly of Taught Grammar in which the writer humorously depicts the calamity that would follow a universal vogue of correct English, "if we should wake up some morning to find every one saying 'I shall' and 'I will' in their proper places, the newsboy purged of slang, the racy brogues dislodged from the street car and the street corner, the hired man pronouncing according to Webster," etc.

In Littell's *Living Age* of January 25 there is an interesting article on The Race for the Poles, giving descriptions of the dozen expeditions, nearly, now engaged in a quest for the Poles. Another article in the same number traces the growth of the Literary Movement in Ireland, showing that that country is producing for the first time in her history, literature in the English language.