## HINTS ON TEACHING

## Primary Arithmetic.

## 1.

## IDEAS OF NUMBERS-NUMERATION AND NOTATION.

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The first lessons of Arithmetic should be given by means of oral exercises. These exercises should be continued during the entire course in Arithmetic. Every subject, even in the most advanced parts of Written Arithmetic, should be introduced by means of oral exercises. The *Arithmometer*, called also the *Abacus* and the *Ball-Frame*, should be used in the first lessons in numbers.

In Primary Arithmetic, the order of instruction is : first, the method, then the reason for it; that is, first, the mechanical part, then the rational. Much precious time has been wasted in primary instruction by the violation of this principle.

In Primary Arithmetic, the method of teaching should be inductive. The pupil should be led to each new idea and process by appropriate questions and illustrations. Mental and Written Arithmetic should go hand in hand in Primary Arithmetic. There are only a few suggestive mental exercises in this book. The Teacher should supplement these.

The first step in the science of Arithmetic is the attainment of numerical ideas. With children, the idea of number begins with the perception of objects, and the idea is developed by a process called counting.

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