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Books—Continued.

SUGGESTIONS FOR KINDERGARTEN WORK. By Marion Strickland, Supervisor of Kindergartens, Syracuse, New York 30 cents. C. W. Bardeen, publisher.

This little book, which is one of the "Bulletin Publications," will, we should think, be found very useful to kindergarten teachers. It contains, in addition to an introductory chapter on the founder, aims, methods, and benefit of the kindergarten, lesson-work for three months of the school year, skilfully prepared, entertaining and instructive.

A Handbook of Geometrical Wood Carving, by Gustaf Larsson (E. L. Kellogg & Co., N.Y. Price, 50 cents), is a manual that will be very useful to all who are interested in the training of the hand. The system of wood-carving here outlined is the Swedish, practised among the nations of northern Europe for many years. The book describes and illustrates the tools to be used, gives general directions as to their use to assist the learner, and outlines a series of exercises which are fully illustrated. Indeed, the more than one hundred illustrations are what make the book of great practical value. It renders the learning of wood-carving, without any other teacher, easy.

PHILIP'S SEMI-UPRIGHT COPY BOOKS.

We have received from the publishers, George Philip & Son, London and Liverpool, a set of their series of twelve copybooks. The semi-upright system adopted—fifteen degrees vertical—aims at the golden mean between the perfectly upright and the average slope of oblique writing. This is a running round hand, and is known as the "Civil Service" style. The writing, as it appears in these copies, is certainly both legible and beautiful. In the contest of styles, which, it seems, is now going on in England as well as in Canada, this semi-upright is sure to find many adherents. It is, to our thinking, vastly superior to the oblique, while the position required is easy, natural, and healthy.

Literary Notes.

Hezekiah Butterworth contributes to the December *Review of Reviews* a stimulating article on "The Kindergarten Age" (illustrated). In the same number

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Prof. E. A. Kirkpatrick writes on "Child-Study in the Training of Teachers," describing the work of that character as conducted in the Minnesota Normal School at Winona. His article is illustrated with portraits of educators throughout the country who are interested in the child-study movement. These articles will interest all teachers.

The *Canadian Home Journal* for December, published in Toronto, edited by the well-known writer, Faith Fenton, late of *The Empire*, is artistically gotten up, full of the Christmas spirit, well illustrated, and in every way creditable to editors and publishers. Lady Aberdeen herself, president of the National Council of Women, edits and controls the department devoted to the interests of this influential organization. Music, art, fashions, games, the household, fascinating and seasonable stories, written specially for the *Journal*, bright, timely articles on books, people, and current events, are among its leading features, and commend it to every woman in the Dominion. Single copies, ten cents, or \$1 a year. Address, Home Journal Publishing Co., *Globe Building*, Toronto.

"The Progress of the World," the editorial department of the *Review of Reviews*, touches, in the December number on a great variety of topics of national and international significance. After devoting several paragraphs to a lucid and instructive analysis of the results of the presidential election, the editor proceeds to review the history of the efforts to obtain arbitration of the Venezuelan boundary dispute with Great Britain, which have finally resulted successfully, explaining the attitude of the United States in the controversy; discusses the merits and demerits of the Cleveland administration now drawing to a close, criticizing with especial vigor the President's Turkish policy; describes the latest phases of the European situation, with reference to the Eastern question and the Franco-Russian alliance; comments on Lord Rosebery's resignation, and the resulting complications in English politics—making altogether a most interesting and valuable summary of the world's important doings for the month just passed.

The importance of *The Living Age* to every American reader, as the freshest and best compilation of gleanings from the field of British periodical literature, has been long recognized. Founded by E. Littell in 1844, it has never ceased to occupy a prominent place among the foremost magazines of the day. In pursuance of the same general plan adopted by its founder, and to give the best the world can offer, the publishers have arranged for the introduction of certain "New Features," so widening its scope as to embrace translations of noteworthy articles from the leading publications of France, Germany, Spain, Italy, and other continental countries, many of which contain matter of great interest and value to the American reader, yet which, for obvious reasons, are absolutely beyond his reach but for the timely help of this delightful medium. In addition, a monthly supplement will be given, containing three departments devoted to American literature. A year ago the price was reduced from \$8 to \$6 a year. This reduction brings the magazine within the reach of a much wider class, and certainly at this price, with these improvements, it is at once one of the cheapest and best literary weeklies in existence. To new subscribers remitting now for the year 1897, the intervening numbers of 1896 will be sent gratis. The *Living Age Co.*, Boston, are the publishers.

It is as important how children learn as what they learn.—*Dr. Mayo.*

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It is the best of evidence that Canada has a rapidly growing distinctive literature of her own, that from the presses of one publishing house all of the above books—which with two exceptions (the new stories by Miss Barr and Miss Swan) are by Canadian writers—should be issued within the latter half of the present year.

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