

these tracts containing by far the best discussion of their subject matter we have ever met with, we know of no finer example of how to teach than the first one exhibits to him who reads it for its *method*. A few such lessons on the different sciences bound in a volume would be worth more than a whole library of the common collection of platitudes called works on education. The remaining three tracts are devoted to 'The Laws of Tensors,' 'The Laws of Clinants,' and 'Stigmatic Geometry.' The sketch is but the merest outline, yet it is fully enough "to justify the author's confidence that Clinants and Stigmatics are a New Power in Mathematical Analysis, a New Instrument for Geometrical Investigation, and a New Form of Life for Algebra."

For those preparing for examination for teachers' certificates, Twisden's 'First Lessons in Theoretical Mechanics' will certainly be a boon. Unlike most English works on the subject, it requires no higher mathematical knowledge than Arithmetic and a little Algebra, Geometry, and Mensuration. It is questionable whether this teaching of mechanics first, and mathematics afterwards (if ever,) will or can be successful; but it seems to be the system at present adopted for our teachers, and such a work as Twisden's was needed. (A few hours study of such a work as Todhunter's Trigonometry, for Beginners, or of McDowell's Trigonometry required for the Additional Subjects for Honours at the Previous Examination, would open to our teachers almost any elementary work on mechanics. Would it not be well to put the Elements of Trigonometry among the 'First Class subjects?') Goodeve's 'Principles of Mechanics' meets a want many of our teachers have felt. Let any who cannot see the practical value of theoretical mechanics procure it. (Longmans, Green & Co. p.p. 313, \$1.05.)

*English, Elementary.*—Cowper's Task, Edited with Life and Notes by H. F. Griffith; pp 256: Milton's *Il Penseroso*, with Notes, pp. 16: Shakespeare's *Tempest*, with Notes, by W. A. Wright: Milton's *Areopagitica*, with Notes, by J. W. Hales. These are all worthy of their place in the *Oxford Press Series* and need no recommendation.

With them may be placed Goldsmith's *Traveller*, by J. W. Hales; Milton's *Lycidas* and *Epitaphium Damonis*, by C. S. Jerram; and *Twenty of Bacon's Essays*, by F. Starr.

No teacher of English can afford to be without Morris's *Elementary Lessons in Historical English*. Accidence, and Abbott's *How to tell the Parts of Speech*. Add Bain's *Companion to Higher English Grammar*.

Of works for the student and general reader are, *The sources of Standard English*, by T. C. K. Oliphant; *Characteristics of English Poets* from Chaucer to Shirley, by Wm. Minto; and a *Shakespeare Lexicon*, by Dr. A. Schmidt Vol 1. Part IV of A. J. Ellis's unrivalled work '*On Early English Pronunciation*' although promised for December we have not yet seen. This volume will be of special interest.

In the teaching of *French*, two works mark decided progress,—the publication as a school-text of Emile Souvestre's '*Un Philosophe sous les Toits*' with Notes, by Leonce Stievenard, and Breymann's '*French Grammar based on Philological Principles*.' 'A compendious Dictionary of the French Language by Gustave Masson' takes rank by itself far in front of all other French-English Dictionaries. Amongst other features peculiar to it is the giving of derivations. These have been taken chiefly from the works of Littré, Scheler, and Brachet.

In *Classics* there has been issued the usual number of texts and several excellent translations. Part II of Roby's *Grammar of the Latin Language* completes the work and is certainly a monument of the author's scholarship, acuteness of observation, and power of thought. Mayor's '*Guide to the Choice of Classical Books*' is a most useful book for reference. (Bell & Sons, 1873).

In *General Philology* 1874 gives T. H. Key's *Language, its Origin and Development*, A. H. Sayce's *Principles of Comparative Philology*, and Part I of a translation of Schleicher's *Compendium of the Comparative Grammar of the Indo-European Languages*.

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#### EDITOR'S DRAWER.

—A valuable letter on Prizes will receive attention in a future No.

—A review of a new book, prepared for this issue is laid over till next month.

—Though we take great care in mailing the "*Teacher*," irregularities occasionally occur. We always remain a copy when notified promptly, but cannot promise to do so after several months have elapsed.