

Some of the graded schools in Hants and Kings have secured new principals, as follows: Summerville, Miss Emma L. Stephens; Cheverie, Miss Annie Hennigar; St. Croix, Miss Helen McCurdy; Waterville, Mr. Charles E. Reid; Sheffield's Mills, Miss Angie Lee; Upper Canard, Mr. Percy J. Shaw.

More new teachers are teaching their first term in Hants and Kings, N. S., than for many years past.

Hillsdale, Whale Creek, Georgefield, Vaughan, Five Mile Plain, and Mill Brook, in Hants County, need teachers. It will be in order for any teacher, in need of a school, to apply to the secretaries of trustees in these sections.

The annual meeting of the Prince Edward Island Teachers' Association will be held in Charlottetown on Thursday and Friday, October 6th and 7th. An interesting programme has been prepared, which was published in the September REVIEW.

The Vancouver *World* of a recent date said: Miss Annie Harvey, a Nova Scotia teacher, leaves to-day on the "Aorangi" for Honolulu. Miss Harvey is accompanied by Mrs. E. Wood, whose husband is principal of the Normal College in Honolulu. Mrs. Wood has been visiting her friends in Guysboro County, and Miss Harvey goes with her to meet her affianced husband, Dr. Wood, who is holding a government position in Heela, eight miles from Honolulu. We understand that Dr. Wood has won honors in hospital work, and now holds a most excellent position. He is to be congratulated upon his choice of a young lady who is esteemed very highly both as an efficient and cultured teacher.

Dr. Edgar Wood is, or was recently, the principal of the science department of the Honolulu High Schools. It is interesting that the high school where he teaches is located in a palace formerly occupied by Queen Liliuokalani. He is a native of River Hebert, Cumberland Co., N. S., and a graduate in arts of Mt. Allison College, and in science of Cornell University. Mr. Wood went to Honolulu about three years ago. His brother, Dr. Herbert Wood, was also a Mt. Allison student, and practised medicine for a year or so at River Hebert. He is now a government officer and general practitioner, with a large and lucrative practice.

RECENT BOOKS.

If in teaching arithmetic the results to the pupil have been confusing and of no educational value, the fault lies in the lack of an orderly and logical method in presenting the subject so that the various processes may fit the development of children's minds. Happily in books recently published¹ there is a distinct recognition of the want of a better scientific treatment of arithmetic, especially in elementary grades, and an attempt made to lay a foundation for better teaching. In McLellan & Ames' Primary School Arithmetic, designed for teachers, there appears to be a clear conception of what is to be done in teaching number and grading it to suit the capacity of children. From the first there is continuous experimenting and measurement to develop the child's number sense, arousing his interest and activity, and leading him from the start to see

¹THE PRIMARY SCHOOL ARITHMETIC, by J. A. McLellan, A.M., LL.D., and A. F. Ames, A.B. Teachers' edition. 12 mo. Pages 265. Price 60 cents, net. Publishers, Copp, Clark & Co., Toronto.

AN ELEMENTARY TREATISE ON ARITHMETIC, by Wilson Taylor, B.A. Pages 218. Publisher, Wm. Briggs, Toronto.

ARITHMETIC FOR SCHOOLS, in four parts, by Kennedy and O'Hearn. Part IV for academies and high schools. Publishers, T. C. Allen & Co., Halifax.

what an important part number plays in the affairs of life. There are no catch problems, no useless matter. It sticks closely to fundamental principles and the patient and thorough working out of these by clear and practical examples. An excellent feature in the book is its clear, well-printed pages.

Taylor's Elementary Arithmetic, for use in the public and model schools of Ontario, has many advantages over arithmetics now in use, and gives promise of being of great service in securing better results in the art of teaching number. It is admirable for its conciseness; all meaningless and technical words and examples are omitted; it takes up the divisions of the subject in logical order and explains commercial work in clear language and with a variety of practical examples.

Kennedy and O'Hearn have completed their series of arithmetics by adding Part IV which has just been published, for the use of academies and high schools. These gentlemen are to be congratulated on the completion of their work, which gives to the schools of the Atlantic Provinces a well graded series of arithmetics at a low price. We should like to see each part with a neat and durable binding, instead of paper covers, as at present. It could be done with but little additional cost, and it would enhance the value of the work in the minds of children who would like to preserve their school books. The four parts bound together would also be a great boon to teachers.

In the preface to the revised edition of Gage's Physics¹ the author regrets "the tendency to allow enthusiasm over experimentation, for mere manipulation of apparatus, to obscure the importance of an intellectual mastery of the facts and their underlying principles." This is the danger of the "Laboratory Method." While it encourages the pupil to perform his own experiments in all branches of natural science in opposition to former almost universal methods of text-book memorizing and lectures, there is danger that the "mere manipulation" may come to be the all-important part without an intellectual grasp of the principles of the science. This, of course, can be regulated by the discreet teacher whose own training has been a wise combination of both theory and practice. To obviate the danger of too much concentration of effort in the laboratory, the author has issued a separate manual of "Physical Experiments," reserving the text-book for the elucidation of principles, with questions thereon, and such illustrations as shall make them clear. In the revised edition the author has omitted the discussion of certain obscure and imperfectly understood topics, such as absorption, osmosis and crystallization, and has brought the work up to the times by chapters on the Roentgen Ray, the Telephone, Electric Railways, etc.

The edition of Cicero's First Oration Against Catiline² in Macmillan's "Elementary Classics" is excellent for its vivid sketch of the life and career of Catiline, the carefully edited text, the judicious notes, well arranged vocabulary, and for the neat form and well printed pages.

The exercises on the First Book of Euclid³ will furnish any teacher, no matter what text he uses, with a well graded series of deductions from some of the fundamental propositions in geometry.

¹THE ELEMENTS OF PHYSICS: A Text-book for High Schools and Academies, by Alfred Payson Gage, Ph.D. Revised Edition. Pages 381; cloth; mailing price, \$1.20. Publishers, Ginn & Co., Boston, Mass.

²CICERO: *First Oration Against Catiline*. Edited for the use of schools, by the Rev. G. H. Nall, M. A., assistant master of Westminster School. Pages 75. Price 1s. 6d. Publishers, Macmillan & Co., London and New York.

³EXERCISES ON THE FIRST BOOK OF EUCLID, by Wm. Weeks, lecturer on Geometry, St. Luke's Training College, Exeter. Pages 60. Price 1s. Publishers, Macmillan & Co., London and New York.

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