

Rhetoric," by J. E. Witherell, pp. 93, price 25 cts., and have pleasure in drawing attention to it. It contains the departmental examination papers for several years, followed by a considerable number of carefully selected passages, some with questions appended, others without, and a review of the leading principles of rhetoric. It will be found convenient and sufficient for class drill.

We have also to thank the same publishers for a set of "Elementary Composition Exercise Books," Nos. 1, 2, 3, for use in second, third, and fourth book classes, respectively, by S. E. Lang, B.A., Inspector of Schools (Man.).

The books, which have been prepared primarily, we presume, for use in the schools of Manitoba, undoubtedly contain a large number of useful exercises, but the arrangement is so different from what we have been accustomed in Ontario to regard as proper that we doubt if they will find much favor with our teachers.

The author, who claims to have followed a logical plan, begins in the second book classes with exercises on unity and continuity of paragraph structure; in No. 2 third book classes begin the study of the sentence, and not till pupils reach the dignity of the fourth book are they required to deal with such difficult tasks as to change the voice of verbs or to substitute words for phrases. Even these they do not reach till they have been asked to "Describe a locomotive engine," and to "Prepare a topical analysis of some novel that you have read."

However it may be that we are old fogies, and prejudiced, so our readers who are called on to teach composition had better get No. 3 of the series and judge for themselves.

Once more British sailors and soldiers have shown the stuff which they are made of, not, happily, in

facing the cannon's mouth and with great loss of life, but in the more trying ordeal of shipwreck. The troopship *Warren Hastings* was wrecked off the Island of Reunion on Friday, 15th January. A despatch gives the following particulars: "The troopship ran ashore at 2.20 a.m. and the shock was severe. It was very dark and torrents of rain were falling. She had on board soldiers and crew to the number of 1,122 men, besides a number of women and children, the families of married men of the military force. When the ship struck the troops were ordered to retire from the upper deck, to which they had flocked on the first alarm, and fall in below. This they did promptly with perfect discipline, although the men were fully conscious of the danger which they were in. They were quietly mustered between decks. Owing to the fact that surf boats could not be used in landing the troops, two officers of the *Warren Hastings* were lowered from the ship's bow to the rocks, and when it was found that a landing could be effected in this way the disembarkation of the soldiers was begun at 4 a.m., Commander Holland hoping it was safe to retain the women, children, and sick on board until daylight. But the steamship was soon found to be heeling over so rapidly that everyone was ordered to the upper deck, the danger of capsizing becoming imminent. Commander Holland ordered the landing of the troops to be stopped, so that women, children, and the sick should be landed first. This was obeyed with admirable discipline. By 5 o'clock the decks had heeled over to an angle of fifty degrees to starboard and the boats were all swept away. The good swimmers were then permitted to swim ashore, carrying ropes. By these means many others were landed, and the disembarkation of all on board was completed, with the loss