

## Question Drawer.

All questions for this department, like all communications for any other department of THE JOURNAL, must be authenticated with the name and address of the writer, and must be written on one side of the paper only. Questions should also be classified according to the subject, i.e., questions for the English, the Mathematical, the Scientific, and the general information departments should be written on separate slips, so that each set may be forwarded to the Editor of the particular department. If you wish prompt answers to questions, please observe these rules.

W.A.M.—Is the following construction correct? "They were given a large sum of money, besides being granted some land." Ans.—Yes.

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VIRCOLA.—(1) May candidates for a Primary certificate take the First and Second Form examinations at the same time? (Dep. Reg. 10, S. 5.)

(2) May candidates for a Junior Leaving certificate take all the examinations at the same time? (Dep. Reg. 10, S. 5.)

(3) Is a candidate who failed at the last Entrance examination eligible to enter on the course prescribed for the Public School Leaving examination with or without the recommendation of the principal of the school? (The Ed. System of Ontario, page 22.)

(4) In what form of a High School are candidates who HEREAFTER pass the Public School Leaving examination entitled to be admitted, since all candidates for a Primary certificate must take the First Form examination? (Dep. Reg. 10.)

As different views are held in regard to some answers to the foregoing questions, I trust you will kindly answer as soon as possible.

The Departmental Regulations referred to are found in Circular No. 4, June, 1895.

ANS.—(1) and (2) are answered in our editorial: "The New Regulations."

(3) There is nothing in the Regulations to prevent a candidate who failed at the last High School Entrance Examination from proceeding to the Public School Leaving examination next year.

(4) The Regulation admitting to Form II. of the High School pupils who have passed the Public School Leaving examination has not been changed as yet. No doubt, under the new order of things, this provision will be abolished. The matter should be left to the High School principal. A pupil who would insist on the legal right to enter a class for which he was unfit would be foolish indeed.

A.C.—In the Departmental Regulations lately issued, I notice in section 12, of Circular No. 4, entitled "Provisions for Candidates under former Regulations," that candidates who in 1895 hold a certificate obtained under former Regulations, or who are entitled to write for a Junior or a Senior Leaving certificate, may, at the examinations of 1896 or 1897, write for certificates in the subjects as prescribed therefor under the Regulations of 1893, and as defined in the Regulations of 1895.

(1) May a teacher holding a Second Class Professional certificate write at either of the examinations in 1896 or 1897 on the subjects as prescribed in 1893 for Senior Leaving, and take the examination in two parts, viz., I. and II., as prescribed in the Regulations of 1895?

(2) May a candidate who may be successful at the late Primary examination be entitled to write for a Junior Leaving certificate next year on the same subjects that the Junior Leaving wrote upon this year?

ANS.—Full answers are given to (1) and (2) in our editorial: "The New Regulations."

## Literary Notes.

The *Atlantic Monthly* for September contains the first instalment of a three-part story, by Charles Egbert Craddock, entitled "The Mystery of Witch-Face Mountain." The second of Dr. John Fiske's historical papers has for a subject "John Smith in Virginia," in which he reopens vigorously the discussion in regard to this interesting character. Bradford Torrey contributes another Tennessee sketch, "Chickamauga." "President Polk's Diary," of the August number, is followed in this issue by "President Polk's Administration," by the same author.

The usual instalments of the two serials now running add interest to the issue. The verse of the number will be of unusual quality. "Tiger-Lilies" is the first work of Michael Field, the popular English writer, to appear in an American periodical. Among other features are Guides: "A Protest," by Agnes Repplier, important book reviews, and the Contributor's Club.

## Book Notices.

BEMAN AND SMITH'S GEOMETRY TABLE FOR WRITING EXERCISES, published by Ginn & Company, Boston, is of convenient size, on good paper, specially ruled for the purpose. On the cover are general directions to teacher and student, a complete set of marks for criticism, with key, symbols, etc. A very convenient thing. It will be found very helpful in promoting neat and systematic work.

In the September *Century*, Prof. Sloane carries the narrative of Napoleon's life to the period of the suppressing of the Revolution. This number contains three complete sketches of fiction by popular American writers. An article of special interest and expert character is Miss Alice C. Fletcher's paper on "Hunting Customs of the Omahas," in her group of "Personal Studies of Indian Life." A practical article on "Aquatic Gardening," with illustrations; an interesting and well-considered essay on "The Writing of History," by Prof. Woodrow Wilson, of Princeton; and an article on the Chickamauga national military park, by Gen. H. V. Boynton, follow. The poetry of the September *Century* includes

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two ballads: "The Constitution's Last Fight," by James Jeffrey Roche, editor of the Boston *Pilot*, and "The Ballad of Chickamauga," by Maurice Thompson. There is also a fine lyric by Will H. Thompson, brother of Maurice, to whom it is addressed. William Prescott Foster, one of the best of the American sonnet-eers, contributes two "Sonnets for the Times," and Mrs. Schayer a poem entitled "The Moon Flower," with a decoration by her daughter Wilhelmina von Stosch, sister of the violinist. Canada is represented by William Wilfred Campbell's "September in the Laurentian Hills." After other interesting matter come the editorials, which deal with "The Doom of the Spoils System," "The Prejudice against Learning among Undergraduates," "Art on the Battlefield," apropos of the Chickamauga celebration, and "Hope for the Forests," referring to the resolution of the New York Board of Trade, looking towards the organization of commercial bodies in favor of a national forest commission.

COMPLETE GEOGRAPHY. By Alexander Everett Frye, author of "Child and Nature," "Primary Geography," etc. Boston, U.S.A.: Ginn & Company.

Were a given number of men or women of middle age to be asked which of all the studies of their school days is remembered as the drier and most irksome of their daily tasks, nine out of every ten would probably reply, without much hesitation, "Geography." If an equal number of children from one of the best schools of the present day were asked to name the study they like best, a large proportion, if not a majority, would probably reply, with as little hesitation, "Geography." This change of sentiment would be easily explained by reference to the great difference in the methods pursued, and in the style and plan of the text-books used. The nature of these differences is well understood by every teacher whose experience reaches far enough backward as teacher or pupil to furnish some recollections of the old lessons in geography. Happily, the text-books are still undergoing improvement. Certainly one of the best in every respect which we have yet seen is that whose title-page is quoted above. It is an admirable book, admirable in its mechanical "get-up," in the general simplicity and clearness of its letter-press, in the beauty and profuseness of its illustrations, in the quality, arrangement, and completeness of its subject-matter, in the excellence of its outline and its reference maps and numerous other engravings. The sketches of the form, motions, and physical features of the earth, and of its various countries; the lucid descriptions of the natural causes which have been and are at work to produce, modify, and change those features; the bearing of these physical conditions and features upon the products, animal and vegetable, of each country; the commercial relations of the countries to each other, as the outcome of these special conditions and products, etc., are all treated with a fullness and simplicity which leave little to be desired. The pictorial illustrations which abound on every page, and bring clearly before the eye the peculiarities in the appearance and dress of the people, as well as in the animal and vegetable life of every country, combined with the letter-press descriptions of physical and commercial facts and peculiarities, and the excellent reference maps, afford material which can hardly fail, in the hands of a skilful teacher, to make the study of geography delightful and fascinating to every active-minded pupil. Though the book is not, of course, available for use as a text-book in our schools, it would, we have

no doubt, prove very helpful to many as a work of suggestion and reference for the teacher's own use.

## VETERINARY COLLEGE.

The course of study in the new Veterinary College, Kingston, has been arranged to cover two winter sessions of six months each, so that farmers' sons can attend during the winter, and, if necessary, work at home during the summer. In this way a young man who is saving, and who has a good common school education, can almost put himself through college and qualify himself in two years to earn a good living at the practice of veterinary medicine. The fees per session are \$60; and good board for the twenty-two weeks during which the session lasts can be had for \$2.50 a week. The cost for books need not exceed \$10, and the degree of V.S. from Queen's University will cost \$10 more. These are the essential items of expense for the whole course. Write to Geo. Y. Chown, Honorary Treasurer, Kingston, for circular giving full information.

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