

college graduates, who as a general rule, neglected this more modern off-shoot of the general science of algebra. We understand that of late determinants are taken up in the first year algebra of the university of Dalhousie at Halifax.

A LATIN GRAMMAR, by Thomas Chase, Litt.D, LL.D. SIX BOOKS OF THE ÆNEID OF VIRGIL, with notes and vocabulary, by the same author. Eldredge & Brother, Philadelphia.

In the August number of the EDUCATIONAL REVIEW we had the satisfaction of commending to the notice of our readers the "First Year in Latin," by George Stuart, A.M. The two books mentioned above belong to the same series of classical works, and are distinguished by the same admirable characteristics which we observed in the other. The grammar is excellent. Whilst there is a very full and accurate statement of the facts of grammar, they are not obscured by the mass of philological information which we too frequently find in advanced grammars. The arrangement is not inferior to the matter, and the clearness and conciseness of remark and definition will undoubtedly secure the approbation of teacher and student alike. The attention which is paid to the quantity markings is as conspicuous here as in the former work, and the use of different kinds of type is a plan by which the observations and rules are impressed upon the mind. Where every section is well done, it becomes a matter of some difficulty to select those that please us best; yet we would refer particularly to the sections which treat of the *subjunctive mood* and *oblique narration* as being scholarly and complete; the chapter on *prosody* as invaluable because it is practical, and to the carefully prepared *index* for reference. We can unhesitatingly say that with such a grammar as this, and a good lexicon, a student of fair ability ought to make his way successfully through the works of any of the Latin authors generally read in school or college, without the aid of note or comment or any of the other less legitimate means of assistance. The "Six Books of the Æneid" are, like the other books of this series, beautifully and correctly printed, and are consequently very pleasant and satisfactory to use as texts. Of notes and vocabulary we have said enough already; but we must add, respecting this edition, that we are never at a loss respecting the quantity of the vowels of the Latin words or of the proper names which occur in the text. This alone will, we have no doubt, recommend this edition of the Six Books of Virgil to the favor of many teachers and students.

JOH. AMOS COMENIUS'S VISIBLE WORLD, OR, A NOMENCLATURE, AND PICTURES OF ALL THE CHIEF THINGS THAT ARE IN THE WORLD, AND OF MEN'S EMPLOYMENTS THEREIN; in above 150 copper cuts. Written by the author in Latin and High Dutch, being one of his last essays; and the most suitable to children's capacity of any he hath hitherto made. Translated into English by Charles Hoole, M. A., for the use of young Latin scholars. The eleventh edition corrected, and the English made to answer word for word to the Latin, etc., London, etc., 1728.

This is a portion of the ornamental title page of an early English edition of one of the classic works on language-teaching, by Johann Amos Comenius, first published in 1658. He was born 1592, in Moravia, and was the author of many works

which obtained for him the position of a leading educational reformer in the literature of the world. His *Janua Linguarum Reserata* (1631), has been published in twelve European languages, and also in Arabic, Persian and Turkish. His reputation was so widely spread, that from old Hungary he was invited in 1682 to draw up a scheme for the management of the schools of Sweden, and in 1641 was invited to attend a commission which the English Parliament intended to appoint to reform their educational system. And in 1654 he was solicited to become President of Harvard College, on the resignation of President Dunster. The work we have under consideration is shortly known as the *Orbis Pictus*, and is the best illustration of the Comenian method of teaching languages, which he seems to have been the first to adopt.

This work has just been reprinted by C. W. Bardeen, 83 and 85 Clinton street, Syracuse, New York, in a fine antique looking volume of about 200 pages. He has reproduced the original engravings exactly with all the peculiarities of the skill of the engravers of two and a quarter centuries ago. This, in itself, is an interesting feature. The lessons are conducted by question and answer on the engraving alone, the English and Latin being in parallel columns. By reading through this picture book, which commences with the letters and takes in a great multitude of the most common things and ideas in the world, a student may acquire a greater command of colloquial Latin than by reading all the works of Cicero. It is the most delightful book which the boy who has just got through the verbs in any elementary Latin grammar can read. He can read without a dictionary and enjoy the pictures. As it is an educational classic every teacher should have it in his library, and if he has it in his library, he cannot help enjoying it.

INDUSTRIAL INSTRUCTION, by Robert Seidel, Mollis, Switzerland. Cloth, 170 pages. Price 80 cents. D. C. Heath & Co., Publishers, Boston, New York and Chicago. Besides a skillful refutation of the objections that have from time to time been raised against industrial instruction in the schools, the author has presented in this book a philosophical exposition of the principles underlying the claims of hand-labor to a place on the school programme. The author certainly makes a strong plea for industrial training.

A SYSTEMATIC TABLE OF CANADIAN BIRDS, by Montague Chamberlain, St. John: J. & A. McMillan, publishers. This work, which is just being issued from the press, is for the purpose of classifying the birds found in the Dominion, and furnishing a check-list for students. The work will be of great assistance to active ornithologists, who are thus placed under additional obligations to Mr. Chamberlain for this excellent table for systematizing their labors.

N. M. SHEPHARD, 85 Nassau street, New York, sends us his splendid sheet of cuts of medals, etc., for schools and colleges, etc.

L. S. FOSTER, stationer, printer, etc., No. 35 Pine Street, New York, has our thanks for ornamental calendars and printed cards.

JAS. W. QUEEN & Co., 924 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa., U. S. A., have our thanks for catalogues of microscopic, optical, physical and electrical apparatus.