

main the same ; but it is to the construction and even to the relative order of many of the sentences that we venture to object. The likeness is so apparent that we cannot refrain from calling attention to a few of them. On page 42 of Foster's Primer we find the following passage : "So thick-set are the little blood-vessels, that wherever you thrust a needle, be it as fine a needle as you please, you will be sure to pierce and tear some little blood channel, either artery or capillary or vein, and out will come the ruddy drop." On page 54 of Playter's book we find : "so thickly set are these little vessels that you cannot thrust in even the finest needle without piercing one or more of them, when out will flow the crimson drop." On p. 51 of Foster we have "the blood is the great circulating market of the body, in which all the things that are wanted by all parts, by the muscles, by the brain, by the skin, by the lungs, liver, and kidneys, are bought and sold. What the muscle wants, it, as we have seen, buys from the blood." Compare Playter, pp. 54-5, "The blood is like a great circulating market in the body. . . . From it, all that is wanted by the various parts—by the skin, the brain, the bones, the flesh, is obtained ; . . . what your muscles want they obtain from the blood ;" etc., etc.

"Huxley's Elementary Physiology," p. 134, says "all the substances which are used as food come under one of four heads. They are either what may be termed Proteids, or they are Fats, or they are Amyloids, or they are Minerals. Fats are composed of carbon, hydrogen and oxygen only. All vegetable and animal fatty matters and oils come under this division."

Playter, p. 75, thus paraphrases the above : "All foods come under either one or the other of four heads ; they are either proteids, or they are fats, or they are amyloids, or they are minerals. Fats consist of carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen only. All animal and vegetable fats and oils come under this head." Numerous other passages might be pointed out did space permit ; but the foregoing will suffice to show how nearly the Canadian author approaches an infringement of the

copyright laws which a dutiful acknowledgment in his preface would place in another light.

THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE : Its History and Structure. Royal School Series. London : Thomas Nelson & Sons ; Toronto : James Campbell & Son, 1879.

This is a spirited outline of the history of the English language, and is intended for the higher classes in Elementary Schools. The historical development of the language is given with force and general accuracy. Then follows a succinct account of the history of English literature, and last of all some simple exercises in paraphrasing. The Etymology is touched upon sufficiently for beginners, lists being given of the most useful Greek, Latin, and Anglo-Saxon "roots." We do not however understand why a greater number of the words in the passage on page 39, beginning "But the dominion of the Norman" is not printed in italics, which are employed to indicate words of pure English origin, unless it be with the design, of which we have a hint in the "outline" at the beginning of the chapter, to limit the italicizing to words of special import. Nor is it very easy for the Canadian to understand why Canada should be supposed to have "only hundreds of thousands" of English-speaking people against the millions of the United States, especially when the author's purpose is to show the wide range of the lands in which the language is spoken. A Canadian too might be pardoned for objecting to the following line in a poem on the "Triumphs of the English Language," which we elsewhere quote, taking the liberty of substituting another adjective for the italicized one. "It spreads where winter piles deep snows on bleak Canadian plains."

But notwithstanding all this the book is one that may be heartily welcomed by the teacher, for what is wanted for elementary classes is not long, abstruse treatises, but a concise, intelligible primer such as this, written in a lively, attractive style, and sold, as the present work is, at a low price. We believe that there is not among our authorized text-