

accompanied by conversational exercises based upon them. The first of these is provided by the *Elementarbuch* already mentioned. Among English books I know none on the whole richer in suggestiveness or fuller of material than the books by Alfred G. Havet, published by Simpkin, Marshall & Co., London. *The Complete French Class-Book* (price 6s. 6d.) is a work of above 400 pages, closely printed, followed by a concise dictionary of nearly 100 pages more. It is really a grammar, with a wonderful amount and variety of practical exercises arranged in a variety of ways, nearly 100 pages of which is a reading book, with conversations based on the extracts. *Le Livre du Maître* (same price) serves as a key to all the various kinds of exercises in the *Class-Book*, and contains much additional material. The 3rd, *French Studies*, is quite independent of the other two, and can be used alone with great profit. It contains 124 conversations, each followed by an "instantaneous exercise" on the same matter, and then a bit of practical French reading on every-day subjects, with a conversation upon this latter. It is eminently practical from beginning to end.

Another good book, more in harmony with new methods, is that called *French Dialogues*, by Joh. Storm (University of Christiania), and adapted to English schools by G. Macdonald. New York: Macmillan & Co. 1892. Price 4s. 6d. This one contains nothing but conversational sentences, and gives in foot notes much information nowhere else accessible about what is and is not said now in Paris. Among the small books I ought to mention *Phrases de Tous les Jours*, by Felix Franke. Leipzig: Reisland. 60 pp. om 80, which contains conversations on various topics, with the phonetic transcription on the opposite page. The *Ergänzungsheft*

to this book (same author, publisher and price) is the key in German, which has useful foot-notes, and serves also as a guide to conversational German.

I cannot help saying, in conclusion, that while all these books are of use, they can never prove much more than broken reeds to the teacher who has not lived at all among French people. For him the language is not yet a living possession, however much he may learn by rote from books; and he is really not competent to teach what must be a living language if it is worth meddling with at all. In the meantime something can be done while he is preparing the way for his visit to a French community, and the books above mentioned are the best aids I know.

I shall be very happy to submit all these works, as well as specimen numbers of the *Maître Phonétique*, to the inspection of the teachers who may attend the Easter meeting of the Modern Languages Association.

Yours Truly,

JOHN HOME CAMERON.

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TO THE EDITOR :

MY DEAR SIR,—

I send the following extract from the "Times" in the hope that it may lead to discussion, if not in your valuable columns, at least in the classes of some of your readers.

Yours respectfully,

IMPERIALIST.

Extract from the *Times*, Feb. 13, 1894.

To Englishmen of sluggish imagination no more wholesome discipline can be commended than an occasional glance at the proceedings of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. No more picturesque tribunal exists upon this earth than this assemblage of staid lawyers met together in a dull room in Whitehall to tender their