



Review

Author(s): M. M.

Review by: M. M.

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Metodi di Geometria Descrittiva. By G. LORIA. Pp. 353. 1919. (Hoepli, Milan.)

We welcome the second edition of this text-book, which is a companion and introductory volume to the author's well-known work on the practical solid geometry of curves and surfaces, published in 1912. It contains a comprehensive account of the theory and representation of points, lines and planes and of general projection. No exercises are given, but the number of special problems discussed is so large that anyone who studies Professor Loria's two volumes cannot fail to acquire a thorough knowledge of the principles of Monge and their later developments. J. J. MILNE.

The Philosophy of Mr. B*tr*nd R*ss*ll, with an Appendix of Passages from Certain other Works. Edited by PHILIP E. B. JOURDAIN. Pp. 96. 3s. 6d. net. 1918. (London: George Allen and Unwin, Ltd. Chicago: Open Court Publishing Company.)

This is a subtle and amusing satire on the philosophy of Mr. Bertrand Russell, written from the point of view of the Red Queen in *Alice* that "Even a joke should have some meaning." The history of the fictitious "Mr. B*tr*nd R*ss*ll" is the subject of an exquisite "Editor's Note," and the chapters, the style, and the references are all delicate parodies of Mr. Russell's work. The whole thing is elaborately done with the art that is necessary to conceal art. Of course *Through the Looking-Glass* is one of the chief sources of inspiration and illustration, and very good fun is poked at philosophers (pp. 5, 11, 13, 19, 21, 32, 47, 66, 70-3, 82, 86), politicians (pp. 17, 42), maid-servants (p. 15), valets (p. 24), literary men (pp. 16, 40-2), mathematicians (pp. 22, 25, 42, 61-2, 63, 74, 75-8), judges (pp. 17, 42, 51, 54), the great middle-class (pp. 18, 27), and Mr. Russell himself—with his absurd views on history (p. 12) and his occasional lapses from humour (p. 81 *n.*) and logic (p. 87). The splendid jokes made by De Morgan in his serious communications are given a large place, and it may be noticed that the whole thing has been accepted as a serious exposition of Mr. Russell's philosophy in a recent learned Dutch publication. M. M.

(i) **Easy Numerical Trigonometry of the Right-Angled Triangle.** By H. S. CARSLAW, Sc.D. Pp. 96. 2s. 6d. (Angus and Robertson.)

(ii) **Easy Numerical Trigonometry.** By H. S. CARSLAW, Sc.D. Pp. 142. (Angus and Robertson.)

(iii) **Numerical Trigonometry.** By P. ABBOTT, B.A. Pp. 163+33. 5s. 1919. (Longmans, Green and Co.)

(iv) **Mathematical Tables and Formulae.** By P. ABBOTT, B.A. Pp. 58. 2s. 1919. (Longmans, Green and Co.)

The recognition of the advantages of the inclusion at an early stage of some type of trigonometry in the school course is responsible for the many admirable text-books now available. Dr. Carslaw in his introductory volumes contemplates a fairly comprehensive course before the pupil has learnt the use of logarithms, and includes angles of unlimited size and simple identities. Mr. Abbott's volume is on rather a larger scale, and contains a thorough treatment of the general solutions of triangles; his examples are numerous and of concrete interest, especial attention being directed to practical problems in solid geometry. Circular measure receives rather curt treatment in an appendix; there are many teachers who regard its discussion as stimulating and enlightening and who regret that so few of the elementary books give it fair play.

We commend Mr. Abbott's book of Tables to those who are looking for a compact volume at a reasonable price.

Solid Geometry. By R. S. HEATH, D.Sc. Pp. 123. 4s. 1919. (Rivingtons.)

A compact account of the elementary theory of lines and planes, with proofs of the chief formulae connected with the mensuration of solids and surfaces, and in particular the sphere. The proofs are set out clearly and concisely: there is an adequate supply of numerical and theoretical exercises.