

stance of the things unseen, are almost buried with the nature of the child. They scarce survive the age of manhood, when Reason lights her fickle lamp, and leads the steps astray. Of all things else we miss that loveliest of infantile graces, that guileless confidence, which soon alas! experience will change to sad mistrust. Dead is the ear which will then listen to the story of a giant, though you should tell of one who burst the bars of the sepulchre asunder, and trampled Death and Hell beneath his feet. The eyes which glistened with delight, and drank in pictures of a fairy land, can see no heaven through the misty veil, and they who revelled in ALADDIN'S groves, whose limbs were laden down with sparkling jewelry, refuse to glance at all the amaranthine bloom and beauty where eternal summer reigns.

Aside from those portions of the work to which we have already alluded, or from which we have quoted, we would call especial attention to the affecting sketch, '*The Heart of Adamant*,' and the quaint, old-style story of '*Ye Two Neighbours*,' both perfect gems after their kind.

SANDERS' YOUNG LADIES' READER: Embracing a comprehensive course of instruction in the principles of Rhetorical Reading; with a choice collection of Exercises in Reading, both in Prose and Poetry. For the use of the Higher Female Seminaries, and also the Higher Classes in Female Schools generally. By CHARLES W. SANDERS, A.M., Author of 'A Series of School Readers,' 'Speller, Definer, and Analyzer,' 'Elocutionary Chart,' 'Young Choir,' 'Young Vocalist,' etc. New-York: IVISON AND PHINNEY.

WHAT wonderful changes have been wrought in school-books within the last quarter of a century! Who has forgotten the miserable little things, composed of poor print, poor paper, and no binding at all, that just for a sort of stereotyped joke, they called books? Take up any old reader or grammar — old enough to have such an inscription as this on the fly-leaf:

'To Boggs: His Book.

'STEAL not this book, my honest friend,
For fear the *gallus* will be your end,'

and see if our description is not correct. Look at the illustrations in the old spelling-books, and tell us if you think a man with the toothache would be likely to *dream* any thing much worse.

True, the arts of printing and paper-making have been much improved, but there has been a more remarkable change still. Men have begun to think, and to *act* upon the thought, that the young are entitled to the best works of the book-making fraternity, from author to engraver; and so they are; and where, we should like to know, should their skill be brought more fully into requisition than in the production of school-books, rendering these *vade mecums* of school-days as beautiful and attractive as possible.

The volume before us is a perfect work of the new and enlightened doctrine; and it is the highest pleasure to read such clear impressions upon such fair white paper. The pages are of a good liberal size, the binding neat and substantial, and the character of the selections most admirable. In the old husky dissertations, there was no more danger of the pupils comprehending either the language or thought, than there was of their being taken up to heaven in a water-spout. Here we have something varied, something

useful, something pure, something that will elevate them, but not out of the very shoes they stand in, as was the case aforetime. We commend this Reader to the attention of young ladies, for whom it was especially prepared, and who may consider themselves complimented by this tribute paid to their innate love of the beautiful.

HOMES FOR THE PEOPLE: in SUBURB AND COUNTRY: The Villa, the Mansion, and the Cottage: Adapted to American Climate and Wants. With Examples, showing how to Alter and Remodel Old Buildings. In a series of One Hundred Original Designs. By GERVASE WHEELER, Architect, Author of 'Rural Homes,' etc. In one volume: pp. 443. New-York: CHARLES SCRIBNER.

IN our judgment, this work will supply an important desideratum. In truth, just such a work was needed, at a time when there is a growing taste for that mingled beauty and utility in the construction of American dwellings, which has not been too common heretofore in this country. 'In the attempt,' says Mr. WHEELER in his 'preface' that the following pages indicate, I have endeavored steadily to keep in view the fact that *Homes* are needed, and that the urgency of the want must not be met by the offering of whimsical and unreal fancies, suited neither to habitancy nor durability, and yet although honestly of opinion that any one design selected can be made exactly what it claims to be — a good common-sense house for a man to live in, replete with conveniences and domestic comforts — all have been cast in forms of simple beauty, and the laws of architectural propriety have been respected.' After a thorough examination of the work before us, we can bear testimony to the justice of this assumption. Throughout the work, constant reference is made to certain well-known principles of design upon which material beauty depends. These are interspersed with illustrations, in preference to occupying a position where they may be read as a collected whole, the writer very correctly inferring, that a 'general reader cares little for essays, and would be apt to turn only to the 'pictures,' and so perhaps leave unread what is claimed to be of at least equal value.' The contents of the book consist of a short description of the peculiarities of those architectural styles of past ages which are of practical use in domestic buildings now, and a series of carefully-digested plans of residences, adapted to every want of home-seekers, from the country mansion to the simplest cottage. Many of these designs are in the best possible taste. The 'Villa Mansion,' which fronts the title-page, would be our beau-ideal of a princely country residence. We quote a few remarks in relation to country mansions, which will commend themselves to the reader's good sense:

'He that builds a country mansion should remember that he takes upon himself a responsibility. He not only is about to erect a house that he may enjoy with his family, and which he may not unreasonably hope his children will be able to maintain after his death; but he is about to do what may for years affect the taste of the rustic community that will naturally take their tone from him. Common-sense would lead him to require a house neither too costly nor too large; and a consideration that the wealth he has reaped was only given him for a proper bestowal, should urge him to be careful that he erects what shall be a lesson in art to his neighbors. The retired merchant