

with that book. The book is necessary at the Primary stage in order to define the vocabulary.

Primary Geometry.

The paper in this subject contained several questions on practical geometry. Some answered these well, but the majority did not. The first question, for example, required the candidate to find the distance between the ends of the hands of a clock at half-past ten, it being given that the lengths of the hands were three inches, and three inches and a half. About half the candidates attempted the question, but only a few completed it. Of those who tried and failed, some showed no construction, others miscalculated, and a few put the hands in the wrong place, no doubt from want of thought. The book-work was very well done, as usual.

Junior Examination.

Junior English Literature.

I am pleased to be able to state that there is a marked improvement in spelling, writing, and also in the method of answering the questions this year as compared with the work done in the Junior Examination of 1903. I would suggest that the plan of getting a text book *without notes* is preferable, as teachers are apt to think that the answers to questions set must be contained in the notes, and pupils who have committed the notes to memory, last year frequently wrote the *ipsissima verba* of the note without considering whether they satisfied the form in which the question was set. The papers sent up this year show a distinct advance in the points referred to above, and also in more intelligent teaching and preparation, with an almost complete absence of absurdities which characterized the papers in 1903.

Junior History.

The work done by the Junior candidates was so unequal that it is difficult to report upon it as a whole. The best work was good—one answer upon Strafford was strikingly good—but the worst was *very* bad. One candidate could only write two-thirds of a page upon the whole paper.

As in previous years, many papers were spoilt by carelessness. This was especially noticeable in Question 2. Candidates were asked to trace the Puritan opposition to (a) Thomas Wentworth,