

cial constructions of Euclid before they begin their study of formal geometry, it is desirable that the course of constructions should be regarded as quite distinct from the course of theorems. The two courses will probably be studied side by side, but great freedom should be allowed to the teacher as to the order in which he takes the different constructions." The report proceeded to deal with the course of constructions, the course of theorems, and the importance of riders. The committee recommended the following general order in teaching the theorems of the first three books, and thought that examiners should be requested to recognize this order:—Book I., Book III. to 32 inclusive, Book II., Book III. 35 to the end; and detailed suggestions were given. As to arithmetic and algebra, the committee considered that there was considerable danger of the true educational value of arithmetic and algebra being seriously impaired by reason of a tendency to sacrifice clear understanding to mere mechanical skill. In view of this they recommend—(a) that easy *viva voce* examples should be frequently used in both arithmetic and algebra; (b) that great stress should be laid on fundamental principles; (c) that, as far as possible, the rules which a pupil uses should be generalizations from his own experience; (d) that, whenever practicable, geometry should be employed to illustrate arithmetic and algebra, and in particular that graphs should be used extensively; (e) that many of the harder rules and heavier types of examples, which examinations alone compel us to retain in a school curriculum, should be postponed. With these as guiding principles the committee made various suggestions. In view of the great amount of time now required for teaching the various rules connected with our complicated system of weights and measures, the committee recorded its unanimous opinion that the interests of education demanded the early introduction of a decimal system of weights, measures and coinage.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

THE Duke de Loubat has given \$100,000 to Columbia University for the establishment of

a chair of American archeology. Mr. M. H. Saville, curator at the American Museum of Natural History, has been elected to the professorship.

OBERLIN COLLEGE has received an anonymous gift of \$50,000 from the same donor who recently gave \$50,000.

MR. ALEXANDER C. HUMPHREYS was installed as president of the Stevens Institute of Technology on February 5. Addresses were made by representatives of the trustees and faculty, by President Charles S. Thwing, of Western Reserve University, by President Henry S. Pritchett, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and by Mr. Andrew Carnegie. The alumni offered a dinner and reception to President Humphreys in the evening.

AN extension of the work of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, is about to be inaugurated by the establishment of summer courses. Practical instruction will be given in general medicine by Drs. Sumner and Draper; in neurology by Drs. Pearce Bailey and Cunningham; in gynecology by Drs. W. S. Stone and Bradley; in obstetrics by Dr. Lobenstine; in ophthalmology by Drs. Clairborne, Holden and Tyson; in laryngology by Drs. Simpson and Frothingham; in dermatology by Drs. Hodgson and Dade; in diseases of children by Drs. La Fetra and Huber; in genito-urinary diseases by the senior assistants in the department; in diseases of the stomach and intestines by Dr. Fischer; in clinical pathology by Dr. Jessup; and in physical diagnosis by Dr. Dow. Each course continues for a period of from three to five weeks, and the work will be adapted to the needs of undergraduates of the third and fourth years, and of practitioners of medicine who desire to pursue further special studies.

DR. K. ALFRED OSANN, of Mülhausen, has been appointed associate professor of mineralogy at the University of Freiburg.

SIR WILLIAM TURNER has been appointed principal of the University of Edinburgh. He has been demonstrator of anatomy in the university since 1854 and professor since 1867.