Company, New York and Boston, and with illustrations from the great artists by Gertrude Morse. The type is clear and good, and many will find it more usefu than the preceding volumes as a beginner's reader.

AN EXEMPLARY COURSE IN ELEMENTARY MATHEMATICS.

Two volumes of the excellent course in elementary mathematics published under the direction of M. Darboux, the distinguished mathematician and dean of the Faculty of Sciences at Paris, have already been mentioned in *The Open Court*. They were the *Arithmetic* of Jules Tannery and the *Plane Geometry* of Jacques Hadamard. Three other important volumes have been published in the series, and are of just the type with which mathematical instructors in America should become acquainted. They are the *Algebra* and *Plane Trigonometry* of M. C. Bourlet, and the *Cosmography* of M. M. Tisserand and H. Andoyer.

M. Bourlet's *Algebra* (548 pages, price 7 fr. 50c.) is very complete for an elementary work. The treatment of negative numbers and of the commutative, associative and distributive properties of operations is quite detailed. Functions of a single variable are discussed, and the graphical representation of the variation of a function explained. Some few notions of analytical geometry have been introduced, and the theory of derivatives, usually deferred to the calculus, is touched upon. The methods employed are such as admit of subsequent extension in mathematics, and assure economy of presentation in all later developments.

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The Cosmography of M. M. Tisserand and H. Andoyer (370 pages, price 6 fr.) is virtually a text-book of astronomy. The book is concisely written, and is devoted to the science of the subject as contrasted with its fictions. The most recent investigations have been recorded. There are twelve excellent plates from photographs of the heavens. The history of astronomy and some special technical points of difficulty are treated in an appendix.

Two important volumes in the same series, a *Solid Geometry* by M. Hadamard and a text-book of *Mechanics* by M. Koenigs, are announced as in the press. Inasmuch as the system of mathematical instruction in France is now more completely and rationally organised than that of any other country, the methods of these text-books are deserving of the closest attention. The publishers are Armand Colin & Co., 5 rue de Mézières, Paris.

BOOK NOTICES.

GRUNDPRINZIPIEN FÜR LÖSUNG DER SOCIALEN FRAGE. Verfasst in drei Gesprächsabenden von G. Krause. Published by the author. New York.

The author of this book is obviously a serious man who burns with the desire to redeem suffering mankind from the evils of the present system of social wrongs. He has passed through many sore disappointments without losing courage to carry on a propaganda for the principles and methods by which he proposes to solve the difficult problem. He submitted the MS. of his book to C. H. Boppe, editor of the *Friedenker*, to Maximilian Grossman, former principal of the Workingmen's