

SHORTER NOTICES.

The Teaching of Algebra (including Trigonometry). By T. PERCY NUNN, M.A., D.Sc. London, Longmans, Green and Company, 1914. xvi + 616 pp. Price \$2.

Exercises in Algebra (including Trigonometry). By T. PERCY NUNN. Part I. 1913. xii + 422 pp. Price \$1.10. Part II. 1914. xii + 552 pp. Price \$1.75.

A FEW years ago one would have been justified in expressing surprise had an American teacher of mathematics gone to England to study modern tendencies in secondary education. To-day, however, if one were to study the present efforts at reform in the teaching of mathematics, he would certainly go to England for some of the most prominent leaders in the movement. Fifteen years have wrought a great change, and while the change has not been along the exact lines suggested by Professor Perry there is no doubt that he was the most influential of those who awakened the teachers of mathematics in the English-speaking world from the lethargy into which they had fallen. Naturally, the movement to better the work in mathematics has not been uniformly successful; for many ill-considered attempts have been made in addition to the few which give reasonable promise of producing satisfactory results. England has had her extremists as America has had hers, but on the whole she has been more consistent than we in her insistence upon a high degree of scholarship.

Among the strongest advocates both for reform in teaching and for a maintenance of high scholarship is Dr. Nunn, vice-principal of the London Day Training College, a teacher of experience and a man who adds character to the title of educator. In the publication of the three works under review, Dr. Nunn has doubtless been assisted by the judgment of the editors of the series of which these books are a part, Messrs. Abbott and Jackson and Dr. Macaulay, three of the best-known leaders in the progress of secondary mathematics in England.

The general introduction considers the nature of algebra, the formula, the graph, and the questions of method and the curriculum. Part I first discusses non-directed numbers, then directed numbers, and finally logarithms. Part II is concerned chiefly with the trigonometry of the sphere (in