

The Teaching of Biology. By Francis E. Lloyd and Maurice E. Bigelow. New York: Longmans, Green & Co. \$1.50.

Altho the teaching of biology in secondary schools is engaged in by many hundreds of teachers in this country, the possibility of there being a science of teaching the subject is probably realized by very few of them. The method of the old-time teacher of botany, who was interested primarily in classifying plants, and the method of the modern university-trained teacher of biology, who tries to repeat with his classes of young pupils the work he did himself in college, each has passed in its own time as the proper method, but both have failed to bring results which the native interest of human beings in biological phenomena would seem to insure. The authors of *The Teaching of Biology*, from their peculiar vantage point of being teachers in an institution which has for one of its functions the scientific study of methods of instruction, have given to the teaching public an elaborate and intensely interesting exposition of the claims of biology in the fields of general education. For the high school teacher who has been struggling against possibly discouraging circumstances, too busy and too exhausted with the labor of keeping his few little cogs of public school machinery well-oiled and moving to give deep thought to what he is actually doing, Professors Lloyd and Bigelow have performed a service which cannot be overestimated. The overcrowded, and

the sometimes ill-trained, teacher loses faith in his subject in a few years after leaving college unless he can keep in touch with the spirit of learning. It is to his great advantage, also, to have an opportunity like the one offered in this book to inform himself concerning the philosophical principles which underlie the teaching of his subject in order that he may justify to himself and to others the employment of the science of biology as a part of the general scheme of education.