as the fact that the Derby is a race for three-year-olds (p. 255) and that female foxes are properly called vixens (p. 305) is perhaps somewhat superfluous, for English readers at any rate ; and we rather fail to see why pigs are called cousins of opossums (p. 149).

To the naturalist, the most interesting chapters are those on wasps and ants, the "possum," quail and partridge, and insects generally, the account of the habits of the opossum being especially good. In the chapte on fox-hunting, the author confirms the statement of other writers that the so-called red fox (the American representative of the European species) cannot be run down without a relay of dogs, or, as we should say, hounds. Whether, however, this is due to the greater speed of American foxes or the inferior pace of American hounds remains to be told. In teaching people how much is to be learnt from the intelligent observation of ordinary surroundings, the book before us is clearly a step in the right direction.   R. L.

L'Age de la Pierre. By G. Rivière. "Bibliothèque d'Histoire et de Géographie universelles." Pp. 183. (Paris : Schleicher Frères.)   Price 2 francs.

IN this book we have a popular account of the Stone age following the traditional lines of French archæology. The author does not pay much attention to any discoveries out of France, but the French evidence being so complete this does not matter very much, especially as the book is not intended for students. The transition between the Palæolithic and Neolithic ages is recognised, and the author brings out clearly the culture of the immigrant Neolithic brachycephals. The statement on p. 136 that "certain peoples of Oceania still use very similar sticks [to the curved throw-stick of Egypt] which they call boomerang" is inexcusably vague. A description of megalithic monuments closes the account of the Neolithic age. The last chapter deals briefly with trepanation as a surgical method in Neolithic times. The author still employs the absurd term "bâtons de commandement" for the carved perforated antlers found in the caves ; surely he must have known of the conclusive paper read by O. Schoetensack before the Congrès International d'Anthropologie et d'Archéologie at Paris in 1900, in which the author demonstrated their similarity to the bone dress fasteners of the Eskimo. In addition to twenty-six figures in the text, there are four half-tone plates, three from the paintings of Jamin and one from Cormon, which illustrate in a dramatic manner various incidents in the life of the men of the Stone age.

Flora of the Liverpool District. By C. T. Green. Pp. xii + 207. (Liverpool : D. Marples and Co., 1902.) Price 5s. net.

THE present work replaces a previous " Flora of Liverpool," which was originally published in 1872 and to which, later on, appendices were added. The revision of previous records and the compilation of recent data have been undertaken by members of the Liverpool Naturalists' Field Club, under the direction of Dr. Green. An original feature of the book consists of illustrations specially drawn by Miss E. M. Wood. These are for the most part characteristic and lifelike, and the figures of certain less common species such as *Ranunculus Lenormandi, Viola carpatica, Juncus supinus* and others are very useful, but in many instances the important features of the plant are omitted, or at any rate not emphasised, *e.g.* the root of *Lathyrus macrorhizus.* In the case of localities where plants are now extinct, as, for instance, Oxton Heath, it would have been well to notify this more definitely. It will be observed that comparatively recent strangers are being admitted, notably *Lycium barbarum,* while *Solanum rostratum* represents a quite modern American invasion. The geological chapter does not serve to dispel the impression

that the book is too much of a dry catalogue, and even the submerged forest at Leasowe receives but a brief mention.

Examples in Algebra. By C. O. Tuckey, B.A. Pp. viii + 178. (London : Bell and Sons.)

IN making this collection, Mr. Tuckey has kept in mind the recommendations of the committee on the teaching of mathematics appointed by the Mathematical Association, and the result is seen in various welcome innovations. Thus, for instance, exercises on the use of graphs are given, some at quite an early stage ; there are problems to show the application of algebra to geometry, mensuration and elementary physics, and so on. Checks on accuracy are frequently suggested, and there are numerous questions to be answered orally. Particularly good sets of questions are those on "Formulæ" (p. 23) and "On the Use of Theory of Form as Check" (p. 93). Merely artificial conundrums are happily rare ; the worst we have noticed is "Simplify $\sum_{abc} \frac{1}{1 + x^{a-b} + x^{a-c}}$." Undoubtedly this is a very good collection, which may be recommended without reservation.

Children's Gardens. By the Hon. Mrs. Evelyn Cecil (Alicia Amherst). Pp. xv + 212 ; with illustrations (London : Macmillan and Co., Ltd., 1902.) Price 6s.

THE object of this daintily produced volume, with its profusion of beautiful illustrations, is to teach children enough about gardening to enable them to find pleasure and profit in the study and cultivation of plants. The book is written in a simple, practical way, and should be of real assistance to those who are able to indulge their taste for horticulture without too much attention to expense. Judging from the style of the book, we should say that the author will succeed in winning and retaining the interest of young children, who will, by the way, find occupation for the winter months as well as for the brighter seasons of the year. Directions are given as to how to utilise the leisure hours of winter in reading about the plants, in manufacturing garden seats and so on, for use in the garden during the days of summer. Altogether a pretty gift book.

School of the Woods : some Life Studies of Animal Instincts and Animal Training. By William J. Long. Illustrated by Charles Copeland. Pp. xiii + 364. (Boston, U.S.A., and London : Ginn and Co., 1902.) Price 7s. 6d.

MR. LONG believes that an animal's success or failure in the ceaseless struggle for life depends, not upon instinct, but upon the kind of training which the animal receives from its mother. He has written most of the sketches contained in this attractive volume in the woods, with the subjects themselves living just outside his tent door. The result is that we are provided with an interesting book which will go a long way to make all who read it lovers of nature and sympathetic, intelligent observers of animal life. Mr. Copeland's excellent pictures will help very much to make the book a favourite with children.

Macmillan's Short Geography of the World. A New Handbook for Teachers and Students. By George F. Bosworth. Pp. vi + 197 ; with maps. (London : Macmillan and Co., Ltd., 1902.)   Price 1s. 6d.

THIS little book deals in a brief manner with the chief facts in the physical and political geography of the countries of the world. Numerous clear maps will enable the beginner to find many of the places mentioned in the text without the aid of a separate atlas. There is scarcely enough information about the many subjects included in the book to make the geography lesson interesting to children, but as a summary the book may be useful