

THE MATHEMATICAL GAZETTE

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IN 1881 the Association for the Improvement of Geometrical Teaching widened its basis so as to include all branches of Elementary Mathematics and Mathematical Physics, though it retained its restricted name. The following means of carrying out the objects of the Association were indicated in the Report of the Council:—

The reading of Papers or raising Discussions at meetings of the Association.

The appointment of Committees to report on existing defects in the usual methods, order, range, etc., in teaching special subjects.

A glance through the titles of the papers read at the General Meetings will show that one part of the programme laid down in 1881 for future progress has been well carried out. But most of the work done in Committees has been that of one or two individuals, and would have been almost as valuable if it had at once been issued to the teaching world without the intervention of Committees, which has frequently been the cause of delay and expense. It is then, doubtless, to the widespread desire on the part of teachers of mathematics to become acquainted with

the methods of other teachers that the Association owes its continued existence. In the hope of carrying out more fully that part of the 1881 programme which has been found most practicable the present journal has been published.

It cannot be doubted that many teachers are in possession of methods of their own which experience has shown to be better than those most in vogue. They are asked to let others have the advantage of knowing these special methods.

We hope to extract from desk and pigeon-hole many MSS. which have remained unpublished for want of a suitable organ for making them known. Our course must be *tentative*. We must find out from our readers on which of several possible lines it is best, in the general interest, to proceed. But we intend to keep strictly to "Elementary Mathematics": while not absolutely excluding Differential and Integral Calculus, our columns will, as a rule, be devoted to such school subjects as Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry, and Mechanics.

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