

interest a child.

Trotton, happily, got in. I gather that Rambaut will succeed next year. Presumably I shall see you at the Source.

The phosphorescence of a substance under X rays, depends on the regulation of the hammer of the Induction Coil, which proves the X rays to be of very various wave-lengths. Don't you think so? If you like, you can try with Iodide of Cadmium, wh. is a fair phosphorescer, or better, with Iodide of lead, which requires very much prayer & supplication.

Best wishes to the household. Hope that Raymond may learn from The Child's Geometry which his mother can teach him - as it professes to be "capable of being used by intelligent mothers with their children".

M.

10/79
COOPERS HILL,
ENGLEFIELD GREEN,
SURREY.

15th May.

D,

I have very nearly finished a new work,
The Child's Geometry,

wh. will, I think, be published by Macmillan. It is meant for the teaching of children of about 8, & it does not follow the method of Euclid. From the outset the child is taught base scales, compasses, & protractors, and to construct a great deal before he sets about proving things.

I have tried this thing with my little boy with excellent results. He knows thoroughly the nature of an angle & other things which I did not know for years after I had been unintelligent slogging away at Euclid.

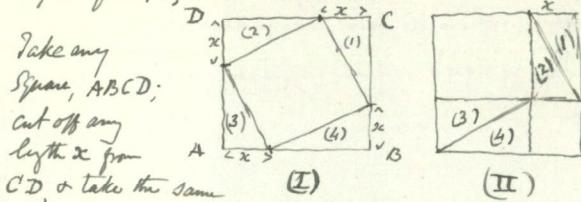
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I give plenty of numerical exercises, & I introduce the conceptions of Euclid's Book II before giving many propositions in Book I. Now my point is this: the Schoolmasters spend a huge amount of time on the teaching of Greek & Latin; the Country pays heavily for the dead languages, & I want to get rid of this system. The Schoolmasters say that Science is not suited to young boys, while Latin is. Truly, Euclid is not suited to them; but Science (Geometry) can be made quite suitable if the Schoolmasters have the right way of teaching it - wh. they have not. I mean to get O.T.T. to join in an attack on the Classical System, &

in advancing the claims of Science in the highly endowed Schools.
What say you?

Of course Science generally (Physic & Chemistry) is kept back in consequence of the keeping back of Geometry, & in consequence of the fact that the Head masters are mostly classical clerics from Oxford & Cambridge.

I thought that I had discovered a simple proof of Euclid's 47th of Bk. I; but I believe that it was known before.



Take any square, ABCD;
cut off any length x from
CD, & take the same

length, as indicated, on the other sides; then we get four identical right-angled triangles, with a space in the middle wh. space is the square of the hypotenuse. Now by shifting these right-angled triangles into the positions of figure (II) the vacant space is the sum of the squares of the sides, i.e. &c. Cut out in paper, it