each process. There is, however, need for many more exercises for the pupils' own use. The author suggests that any suitable book of examples should be used to supplement these given. No attempt has been made to do more than briefly introduce Algebra, but I feel that even such slight treatment would be more appropriate to Book II.

The section on Geometry is confined to the various definitions concerning angles, triangles and quadrilaterals, and is introduced by means of stories and humorous sketches, and there is an attractive summary containing the essentials for the pupil's notebook.

In Book II the section on Arithmetic has been divided into three distinct parts : Whole Numbers and Decimals, Money, Weights and Measures—including the Metric System—and finally Fractions, Ratio and Proportion. More emphasis has been given to Decimals, in that they are taught first, and the pupil's first introduction to fractions is in order to convert them to decimals, before any skill in handling them has been acquired. More arithmetical problems are given in this volume, and there are convenient tests at the end of each section.

In dealing with algebra, the author has followed up the elementary rules with chapters on the simple equation, transformation of formulae, and the work on graphs is developed so far as velocity-time graphs. In this subject, in particular, there are insufficient examples on each new rule.

The use of mathematical instruments, and some experimental work, is covered in the first part of the section on Geometry. The other two parts, however, consist of formal work covering 20 theorems and 15 constructions. I think more experimental work might have been introduced here, in view of the age of the pupils.

These two books are not in general suitable for the State Primary Schools, since the standard attained is far higher than is expected of the average eleven-year-old. However, they could be used with advantage by a governess, or a teacher dealing with small groups of highly selective children. Y. B. G.

CORRESPONDENCE.

POLYHEDRON NOMENCLATURE.

To the Editor of the *Mathematical Gazette*.

DEAR SIR,—In a footnote to page 144 of his edition of Ball's *Mathematical Recreations and Essays* Prof. H. S. M. Coxeter drew attention to a mistake in the present edition of the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* where the attributes of the great dodecahedron are assigned to the small stellated dodecahedron and *vice versa*. Unfortunately this error has crept into the pages of Lines' *Solid Geometry* and from thence into Mr. C. Hope's recent paper on " The Nets of the Regular Star-faced and Star-pointed Polyhedra " (*Math. Gazette*, Vol. XXXV, p. 8). The legend to Lines' Fig. 117, p. 171, should read " Small stellated dodecahedron " and that to Fig. 119, p. 173, " Great dodecahedron ". Photographs of models of these solids are given in Plate II, Figs. 31 and 34 respectively, of Coxeter's edition of Ball mentioned above : a model of the great dodecahedron is also depicted in *Chambers's Encyclopaedia*, 1950, Vol IX, p. 152, art. " Mathematical Models ".

It may be worth while to add that the names by which Poinsot's polyehdra are known were given to them by Cayley in 1859 (*Phil. Mag.*, [4], Vol. XVII, p. 123). SIDNEY MELMORE.