

Many have had the power to make their students understand and admire mathematics; none but he possessed the secret of making his audience feel their subtle attraction.

And what lesson has he for the teacher? "I confess," he wrote to Stieltjes, "that I sometimes give way to indolence (he was then seventy-two), and do not give sufficient preparation to my Sorbonne lectures. But in the watches of the night my conscience pricks me, and I have no peace until I light the candle and get up and finish what I have left undone." So much for duty. He advised wide reading, holding that even the most elementary teaching may profit from the study of the works of genius when they directly touch its object. "I hope," he wrote, "that for the sake of the student more attention will be paid to the simple and the beautiful, and less to that extreme rigour which is so fashionable nowadays, which is so unattractive, so often fatiguing, and so profitless to the beginner, who naturally cannot appreciate its interest and value." He was himself notable for the attention he paid to the historical side in his teaching, and for the efforts he made to widen the horizon of his pupils. But we must draw to a close. Other notices are those of Abbadie, of General Meusnier (Professor Archibald has searched in vain for the reason why British writers always misspell the name of this author of a famous theorem), Berthelot, Pasteur, and others. A rich harvest awaits the readers of this collection.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE *Mathematical Gazette*.

SIR,—It has been pointed out to me that the introduction to the Report of the Public Schools Special Committee, published in the July number of the *Gazette*, is somewhat misleading in respect of the statement that it is "approved by the General Committee of the Mathematical Association." The exact position is that the Report was "approved for publication by the General Committee, etc." The General Committee does not necessarily "approve" the Report in the formal sense of the term.—Yours faithfully,

P ABBOTT,

*Hon. Sec. of the General Committee.*

## NOTICE.

Prof. Em. Mougín, President de l'Association Amicale des Lycées de Roanne (France), will be pleased to forward to any member of our Association a specimen copy of:

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