

Educational Department.

An Enlightened Public Sentiment in this Country Essential to Good Schools.

The principle upon which the systems of public instruction in this country are organized, differs very materially from that upon which they are based in European countries. There, schools are not only established by government, but are made to subservise its purposes. School officers, from District Inspectors and Principals of Normal Schools, down to the lowest grade of teachers, are governmental officials and bound to carry into effect the will of the central power.

It cannot be doubted that the tendency of such an educational system would be to make their teachers the servile tools of the government, to fetter students in their range of investigation, and to destroy all popular interest in the work.

But the worst effect of European systems of education, and of all systems calculated to strengthen a monarchial government, is that they leave the people no part to perform in the establishment of schools, or in the appointment of teachers. The people know indeed that school-houses are built, that teachers are appointed, that their children are often compelled to attend school, that money is expended to keep the machinery of schools in operation, and their advice is not being asked or their wishes consulted, they stand aloof, and the great public heart remains dead to all interest in the work, submitting to it only as to a conscription of soldiers or a levy tax.

In this country, and particularly under the wisely contrived school-law of our own State, the order of things is entirely reversed; and to the people, primarily, is entrusted the care-taking of the whole system of public instruction. Each school district elects its own school officers, and their advice is not being asked or their wishes consulted, they stand aloof, and the great public heart remains dead to all interest in the work, submitting to it only as to a conscription of soldiers or a levy tax.

Our pupils, let us remember, cannot receive from us a greater degree of excellence than we ourselves attain. Books and other influences may carry them higher, but no influence from ourselves can. The stream cannot flow higher than its fountain. It is impossible to communicate and establish in the character of another a christian grace which we do not ourselves possess, as it is to preach what we do not ourselves know. We must acquire what we would impart, and be what we would have our pupils become.

to operate favorably upon the public mind, suggest themselves, but as this communication is already long, they will be reserved for another.

Repetition and Variety.

As for more important facts and principles which are learned at school, particular care should be taken that they are not only learned to-day but will be remembered to-morrow and through life. It is not enough that the pupil can say, "I know things now, I clearly understand them; let me leave them, and hasten onward." Are you sure he will retain this knowledge until it is wanted? There must be a great deal of repetition at school—repetition until a subject is learned and understood; and repetition until it is reasonably assured that it will not be forgotten. There must be line upon line, line upon line, precept upon precept, precept upon precept, here a little and there a little.

Repeat, repeat; but most earnestly endeavor to avoid a monotonous repetition. Do not repeat just the same thing in just the same way under the same circumstances, day after day. Let repetition be relieved with variety. For illustration, in teaching a child to pronounce words at sight, they may be chalked on the blackboard, the words may then be formed in a different order on little cards on his slate; the pupil may endeavor to make them himself; he may afterwards find them in his spelling lesson in his book, and he may finally recognize his own friends in his reading lesson. Pupils may pronounce them in concert, and then individually.

Most adults, and all children, are fond of something new. A teacher is sometimes deceived into an over estimate of new plans, by his increased success during the first few days of their trial. Their novelty is perhaps, their own and their sufficient recommendation.

But if we can not make repetition interesting by novelty and variety, it is better that the pupil's labor be tedious than that important principles be only half learned. And it must be remembered that there are two elements to be avoided. There is some danger of nourishing an unwholesome thirst for perpetual shifting and changing. D. in New York Teacher.

Hint to Teachers.

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For the Farmer.

Best Way to Apply Manures.

"Much is now written on this subject," and more will be, for it is the "sweat anchor" of agriculture, and the "best bower" too, especially to the thousands of small farmers of New-York and New-England, who cultivate their 20, their 50 and 100 acres, and earn in not a few instances, a limited living from the too often stony and reluctant soil. What will meliorate and fertilize this soil? Manure. The various ways of saving and increasing the pile, are well taught in some of our agricultural papers, and the lessons every farmer may learn from them, can be of no doubtful utility. But after the heap has been accumulated with much toil and trouble, there is still a " vexed question" as to the best way of applying it to field culture. The Cultivator says, mix thoroughly with the soil. This is excellent no doubt. But it takes more time and labor to accomplish this feat, than is altogether convenient to bestow. The question is, what way shall we apply manure so as to give the quickest and longest fertilizing power to the soil? In view of all that has been written on this subject, it would seem that some best way might by this time have been established. Perhaps the majority of farmers are persuaded in their own minds that their practice is the best that could be. The writer is not among the number of those, and would be glad of the opinion and judgment of men of more ability and experience than himself. Would it not be of use and interest to have a number of the readers and correspondents of The Cultivator and Country Gentleman, from various and distant sections of the country, to give a brief description of the different modes of agricultural practice in their respective neighborhoods, not only as to the application of manure as above, but in the various other arts and labors of the farm?

In furtherance of this view, the writer will state the mode of applying manure to the soil, which prevails to some extent in his own neighborhood, and it is believed the practice is rather extending. Prof. Mapes has said, "do not plow sandy land in the fall." Now many of our farmers, not having the fear of the Professor before their eyes, do plow their sandy lands in the fall, and afterwards apply barn-yard or other manure to the surface of the plowed ground, to be spread and harrowed at the proper time for corn or other crops. Is this the most judicious mode of treating such land, or any kind of land, with a view to its permanent improvement? The writer of this asks for instruction. His practice up to this time, has been to plow under manure with a shallow furrow, and the next season plow deeper and seed down. This has seemed to him a reasonable way of farming; but the fertility and improvement resulting from it, he confesses have not equalled his expectations. An elderly and experienced farmer has declared he would as soon dump his barnyard manure into the river as turn it under with the plow with the expectation of receiving any benefit from it. Now this is ultra and erroneous no doubt; but as one example it goes to show how widely men differ in opinion. The advocates for surface manuring, state that the effect is more immediate, and the first crop more increased by this mode of using manure than by turning it under the soil. But by exposure, &c., will there not be a loss to counterbalance this benefit? The writer has limited knowledge on the subject, and would be thankful for the instructions of

any one through your pages, which would lead him to a true conclusion on the subject.

Uses of Salt in Agriculture.

Messrs. Editors.—It is strongly recommended to use salt as a manure, in agriculture. I find very few who can confidently, from personal knowledge, recommend it. On some soils, it yields no apparent benefit. I tried it, and "found it wanting." Took about 4 lbs. of salt to one barrel of water; then watered a row of celery, containing 150 plants, with said solution, and in three days, they were all decayed. I then tried one more row, containing the above number of plants, with the solution reduced one half, and there was ten plants left, of a very sickly appearance, and in four weeks disappeared.

I commenced on a third row, with a solution of about one fourth the above strength. From this row I had fifty plants that showed signs of holding on, until the celery was taken up in the first part of November, and left them in the trench as useless.

I should like to know what species of plants, in the vegetable kingdom, it will benefit, how applied, and what quantity?

It has been generally supposed these materials act in vegetation in the same way as condiments of stimulants in animal economy, and that they render the common food more nutritive. It is taken up in corn crops or crops of peas and beans, or barley and wheat? I have tried some experiments on this subject, which are contradictory to the notion laid down, that salt is a most beneficial manure. Effects equally as astonishing have been produced by salt, and they only cease to be equally wonderful to the chemist and man of science, in whose laboratories the causes which produce the effects are more readily seen, than in the great laboratory of nature, where it is most probable that hidden and combining causes will forever, more or less, defeat the experiments of the wisest chemists.

In conclusion I would say, I have found from experience, that water run through good rich manure into a receiver, from the hough-head containing the manure, is better for celery plants than all the salt in christendom in solution. JOHN WHITE, Odgenburg, N. Y.

CHARCOAL FOR SWINE.—It is not perhaps generally known that one of the best articles that can be given to swine, while in preparation for the tub, is common charcoal. The nutritive properties are so great that they have substituted on it without other food for weeks together. Geese confined so as to deprive them of motion, and fattened on three grains of corn per day, and as much coal as they can devour, have become fattened in eight days. The hog eats voraciously, and after a little time, is and never sick while he has a good supply. It should always be kept in the sty, and be fed to the inmates regularly like other food.

Miscellaneous.

LITTLE GRAVES.—Sacred places for pure thoughts and holy meditation are the little graves in the churchyard. They are the depositories of the mother's sweetest joy, half unfolded buds of innocence, humanity nipped by the frost of time, ere yet a single canker worm of corruption had nestled among its embryo petals. Callous, indeed, must be the heart of him who can stand by a little graveside and not have the holiest emotions of his soul awakened to the thought of purity and joy which belongs alone to God and Heaven; for the mute preacher at his feet tells him of life begun and life ended, without a stain; and surely this is the spirit land, enlightened by the son of infinite Goodness whence emanated the soul of that brief sojourner among us. How swells the heart of the parents, with mournful joy, while standing by the cold earthbed of lost little ones!

—mournful because a sweet treasure is taken away—joyful, because that precious jewel glitters in the diadem of the Redeemer.

ELEGANT EXTRACT.—We copy the following extract from a new work entitled "The Old House by the River."

Go preach to the dead, ye who deny the immortality of the affections. Go reason with trees or hills, or images of wood, or with your own motionless, lifeless, icy souls, ye who believe that because there is no marrying yonder, there shall be no embracing, or because water may not use the gentle words of my wife, we may not clasp those sanctified forms in our arms! I tell you, man, that immortality would be a glorious cheat, if with our clay died all our first affections. I tell you that annihilation would be heaven, if I could believe that when my weary head at length rests on its coffin pillow, and my lids sink to the silence and repose of death, those loving eyes will never look into mine again, that pure clasp never be around my neck, that holy breath never bless me more.

BEAUTY OF A RELIGIOUS LIFE.—The beauty of a religious life is one of its greatest recommendations. What does it possess? Peace to all mankind—it teaches us those arts which render us beloved and respected; which will contribute to our present comfort as well as our future happiness. Its greatest ornament is charity—it inculcates nothing but love and simplicity of action—it teaches us nothing but the purest spirit of delight; in short, it is a system perfectly calculated to benefit the heart, improve the mind, and enlighten the understanding.

THE SON OF NAPOLEON.—It is now denied that the Austrian Government has consented to the removal of the mortal remains of the Duke de Reichstuet to Paris. An Austrian paper says;

The son of the great Napoleon was, by order of the late Emperor Francis, buried with the other members of the Imperial family of Austria, and the present Monarch has far too great a respect for the memory of his ancestors ever to think of acting in opposition to his expressed will.

A HAPPY FRESIDE.—Home is the residence not merely of the body but of the heart; it is a place for the affections to unfold and develop themselves; for children to love, and learn and play in; for husband and wife to toil smilingly together, and make life a blessing. The object of all ambition should be to be happy at home; if we are not happy there, we cannot be happy elsewhere.—It is the best proof of the virtues of a family circle to see a happy fireside.

Within a few years, no less than seven representatives of foreign Governments have manifested American laics.

PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS CARDS.

D. R. JOHN McCULLOCH, offers his professional services to the citizens of Huntingdon and vicinity. Office at Mr. Hildebrand's, between the Exchange and Jackson's Hotel. Aug. 23, '65.

T. P. CAMPBELL, Attorney at Law, Office in the brick row near the Court House.

J. S. BROWN, Attorney at Law, Office same as that formerly occupied by Mr. Scott. Huntingdon, Oct. 17, 1853.

JOHN N. PROWELL, Attorney at Law, Will attend faithfully to all legal business entrusted to his care. Huntingdon, July 20, 1855.

JOHN FRISCH, Watch Maker, Can be found at E. Sauer's Jewelry Store. All work warranted. March 13, 1858.

J. SIMPSON AFRICA, County Surveyor, Huntingdon, Pa. Office on Hill street.

D. R. MILLER & FRAZER, Dentists, Huntingdon, Pa. Offices on Hill street, opposite the Court House, and North East corner of Hill and Franklin. Jan. 9, 1856.

J. & W. SAXTON, Huntingdon, Pa., Dealers in Dry Goods, Groceries, Hardware, Queensware, Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes, Grain, &c., &c.

W. M. COLON, Dealer in Books, Stationery, Wall Paper, &c., &c.

P. GWIN, Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Hardware, Queensware, Hats, Caps, Boots and Shoes, &c., &c.

J. M. CUNNINGHAM & BRO., Founders, Huntingdon, Pa.

R. C. McGILL, Dealer in Groceries, Huntingdon county, Pa.

MOSES STROUS, Dealer in Ready Made Clothing, Groceries, Boots and Shoes, Hats and Caps, &c., &c.

H. ROMAN, Dealer in Ready Made Clothing, Hats and Caps, Boots and Shoes, &c., &c.

BENJ. JACOBS, Dealer in Dry Goods, Ready Made Clothing, Groceries, Queensware, Hats and Caps, &c., &c.

LEVI WESTBROOK, Dealer in Groceries, Ladies' and Misses' Boots, Shoes, Gaiters, &c., &c.

LONG & DECKER, Dealers in Groceries, Confectionaries, Queensware, Flour, &c., &c.

JOSEPH REIGGER, Watchmaker and dealer in Watches, Clocks, and Jewelry, &c., &c.

E. M. SNARE, Dealer in Watches, Clocks, Jewelry, Musical Instruments, &c., &c.

W. M. WILLIAMS, Plain and Ornamental Marble Manufacturer.

LOVE & MEDVITS, Dealers in Groceries, Confectionaries, Flour, &c., &c.

JAS. A. BROWN & CO., Dealers in all kinds of Hardware.

CUNNINGHAM AND DUNN, Dealers in Dry Goods, Groceries, Hardware, Queensware, Grain, &c., &c.

OWEN BOAT, Carriage and Wagon Manufacturer.

HENRY McMANIGILL, Proprietor of the Farmers' Home Hotel.

ANDREW MOEBUS, Proprietor of the Broad Top House.

JOHN F. RAMEY, Practical Surveyor, Huntingdon, Pa. Office on Hill street, one door east of the Farmers' Home Hotel.

ADAMS & CO'S EXPRESS, T. K. SIMMONS, Proprietor. Money, Packages, and Goods of all kinds received and forwarded at the risk of the Company, to all the cities and principal towns in the United States.

ORIBSON DORRIS & CO., Miners and Dealers in Broad Top Coal, Huntingdon, Pa.

MAGUIRE & FORT, Dealers in Groceries, Queensware, Flour, &c., &c.

KESSLER, WHITNEY & CO., Dealers in Groceries, Queensware, Flour, &c., &c.

LOWELL, SAXTON & CO., Dealers in Groceries, Queensware, Flour, &c., &c.

HEADLEY'S NEW BOOK—The SACRED PLAINS, by J. H. Headley. One 12 mo. Volume. Cloth, elegantly illustrated. Price \$1.25. Mail order free of postage on the receipt of the retail price.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS. This volume will be read with satisfaction by those who may enjoy the "Sacred Mountains." N. Y. Evening Post.

It is full of deep interest, and written in a most glowing and beautiful style.—Lancette Journal.

There is merit sufficient in the work to make it a favorite with the lover of things associated so close with Bible history and the sacred mountains.—Boston Herald.

The writer has a powerful use of language; and though he enters upon his task with a true devotional spirit he does not lose sight of the scientific and historical facts which surround the general reader.—Evening Gazette.

A finished specimen of style and workmanship.—Buffalo Evening Express.

He has clothed his ideas with lofty and beautiful language, and treated the subject in a manner becoming its importance.—Boston Herald.

The style is different from J. T. Headley, and perhaps better adapted to the popular eye.—Boston Herald.

It is written in a style of poetic prose suited to the subject, and makes some glowing pictures of the "Sacred Plains," spreading them out in all their oriental beauty, and investing them with a charm and interest that belongs to their scenes.—Morning Tribune.

An elegant book, both in contents and appearance.—Boston Herald.

It is a country story, cut by the hand of the story teller, and will be read with interest by all.—Boston Herald.

This volume is handsomely illustrated with views of many spots made interesting by the sacred history.—Boston Herald.

The author has faithfully executed his design, and presented to the public a book replete with interest and instruction.—Evening Gazette.

The materials of the several chapters seem to have been collected with great care.—Boston Herald.

It is a most interesting and instructive volume.—Boston Herald.

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