

Educational Department.

School Discipline. There was a time, of which some of us have a very lively recollection, when school discipline was administered almost exclusively by an appeal to the rod.

So much importance was attached to a teacher's ability and skill in the use of this instrument, that he who could wield it in the most efficient manner was the first to get a desirable situation as teacher.

In time, however, this theory, belonging as it did, to a darker age than ours, had to give way, and another, rejecting the rod entirely, and having for its basis moral suasion, took its place—a theory which in its practical workings showed itself as illy adapted to the youths of our land, as the other.

Such a heavy tide of popularity accompanied the introduction of this theory, that teachers generally, although not a single Page or Northend had sanctioned it, were unable to stem the flood.

The tendency of school government, at the present time, is in the right direction. Teachers have learned by experience, and some, at least, are making practical use of their knowledge, that it is more important to have rules respected and order and harmony prevail in school, than to gratify the popular taste.

The answer generally made, is, "only in extreme cases," which if properly interpreted, is true.—Leicester Gazette.

The Christian Commission propose to provide libraries for our soldiers in the field. In order to secure 30,000 volumes of choice books, every friend at home is asked to purchase and send one or more to the Christian Commission as a New Year's gift to the soldiers.

The Paris ladies seem disposed to adopt, for winter costume, very short petticoats, very high boots, and plaid stockings. Many so accoutred may be seen on the Boulevards.

A UNION LEAGUE IN SAVANNAH.—An Illinois soldier, who escaped from Millen, Ga., on the 15th of November, returned to Savannah, and finally reaching the Union fleet between that city and Charleston, has arrived home, and says that there are loyal men in Savannah. He found there a Union League in actual operation, and received assistance from its members, without which he would not have been able to effect his escape.

The Farmer's Department.

How to Save Manure. I have a drain from my necessary which goes into a hole four feet over at top in the clay outside. When this hole is in part full from the vault, I conduct the waste water from the house roof during rainy weather into it, and also all the wash from the house, except soap suds, which is thrown directly on the strawberry beds and on grape vines.

My cow is kept tied in the stable. At this time I give her a bed of fallen leaves two and three times a day and clean out the well mixed manure as often. When leaves are gone, I substitute turners' shavings from hard wood—by no means half as rich in nitrogen, alkalis and the phosphates as leaves, but as good as straw, tho' not as soon soluble.

POTATOES. supposed to be a failure during the drought, have since proved a very large and heavy crop. A Cayuga county farmer, who planted Peach-blows for his own use, now has 100 bushels over, which he offers at 50 cents a bushel. Our farmers say Peach-blows never did half as well before, and all the other sorts are of monstrous size. But farmers prefer keeping them to present sales at five and six shillings a bushel.

It is an enigma to our domestic economists how butter at so high a price, when none is shipped East. The supply was never greater, and the demand has sensibly decreased, owing to the greater economy in its use and the inability of the poor any longer to indulge in so expensive a luxury. But the "debasement of the currency" is the patriotic as well as the chronic excuse for all prices.

A reliable gentleman in Waterville Oneida county, has two spring pigs, fattened in early May. He fed them nothing during the summer but the sour milk of one cow, the swill of his small family, and the grass and weeds from his garden. On the 1st of Sept. they were long, link and weasel-shaped. He then bought twelve bushels of old corn, had it finely ground, and fed it to them in hasty pudding, three times a day, all they would eat up clean, and always warm. The sour milk and swill was the only change of food given them. On the 1st of December they were killed and weighed, when dressed, 606 lbs. The cost of the corn was \$6, or 50 cents a bushel.

How often do we hear a farmer say, it is more profitable to sell the corn crop to the distillers than to fatten hogs with it. Such men also sell their shoats to the distillers, thus selling of the bone and muscle of the farm, the marrow of the soil, at the very time when the fattening process would give them fat pork and the best of manure; while the hogs they fatten for their own use are fed green soft corn in the most wasteful manner. No wonder it don't pay. I have seen a man—call him not a farmer—throw a bushel of ears of corn into a cold, railed pen, with the mud and excrements to their knees. When asked if it was not wasteful, he replied: "They will root out and eat every kernel." "And the exercise," rejoined "will keep them in working order to their dying day."

Some men in defiance, of all chemical laws ferment the meal that they feed to fattening hogs, feeding it to them after its most fat-forming properties—starch and sugar—have passed into the acetous state.

I have now, early in November, begun to trench my garden, that the frosts of winter may precipitate the cloas that are thrown up into ridges. This not only saves a great deal of labor in the spring, but it also makes the soil absorptive, and of course it is warmed much earlier in the spring for being thus ridged. The manure in the interstices of the cloas incorporates with the crumbling mass, thus ameliorating the soil, chemically and mechanically, changing the color of the clay from drab to chocolate, and capable of holding water in available suspension for the wants of the growing plants.

Ik Marvel, in the Atlantic Monthly, says: "Fire, air and water how down and do obeisance to man. They are analyzed and recombined. They are studied with insatiable curiosity; they receive the absorbing attention of a lifetime; daily their secrets are wrested from them." But while these ancient elements are thus wrought into glory and honor, the fourth sister, Earth remains a cloud.

I would ask the eloquent Ik, if the farmer who reduces the clod mechanically, while he quickens its falling debris chemically, making it subservient to his will for the production of maxi-

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