

METHODS OF TEACHING.

To rightly develop an immortal being is a stupendous work! It requires the purest heart, the brightest intellect and the most unwearying toil. Humanity has been immeasurably the loser by leaving this work to inferior men. While first rate men desecrate their God-like talents to peddle pills, or to quarrel about nine and thine, second or third rate men have generally been thought to be well suited for preaching "the unsearchable riches of Christ," or for training those powers which are to shine when the sun shall have been blotted out of the Heavens.

We trust the time is not far distant, when the order will be reversed. That bright day is already dawning. Teaching is admitted to be one of the learned professions. It opens a field of exertion sufficient for the loftiest powers; and it is beginning to promise an approximate remuneration.

Still, how little has been done! Scarcely one teacher out of twenty claims to be qualified for the work. Still, five dollars less on the month will, usually, secure the employment of an unqualified teacher! But there are noble exceptions, "let us have a good teacher or none." Another encouraging feature is, that teachers are everywhere associating themselves together for mutual improvement. Every county is establishing its *Teachers' Institute*, and every State, its *Teachers' Association*.—Educational Journals, also, are being widely circulated among Teachers and friends of education, carrying with them the spirit of progress.

In all these efforts, the leading object is to develop and reduce to practice the best method of teaching. The infinite importance of being educated, *all admit*. *How shall it best be done?* is a practical question, too seldom asked. But this is just the question that demands the attention of every philanthropist. After every external has been provided,—house, furniture and apparatus,—the method of teaching makes the difference between a good and a poor one.

It is proposed to discuss, in a series of articles, the different methods of Teaching. A critical investigation of the subject is demanded. If aught of error is presented in these articles, let it be exposed, and the better way pointed out.—*Truth is the end sought.*

OURSELVES.

Of how little importance are we to the great world around us; and yet, how much importance we attach to our humble selves. A moderate amount of self-esteem is very proper, for our daily experience clearly demonstrates, that if we do not sufficiently estimate ourselves, our friends will often fail to appreciate us; and thus, appropriately we can sing the old song of "Take care for thyself, and beware for thyself, for nobody cares for thee."

Every body unites with every body, in allowing that every body has some influence, though at times we may be puzzled to know where it lies, but whether or no, we know where it is exerted, we are all pleased to believe the theory, for no one likes to feel that he is but a bubble on the ocean of life. But yet it is nearly so; for we

admire the bubbles whilst gazing upon them for their beauty and brightness.—But they burst as soon as rounded; and in gazing upon succeeding ones we forget the attractions of those which have previously interested us.

Thus a few friends to whom we are knit by kindred ties may retain us in their memory after we have taken our flight to that mysterious bourne. A few sincere friends may shed bitter and heart felt tears on our cold grave, and all who follow us to our long home may sigh mournfully. But they soon enter the battle of life again, and in its conflicts they soon forget the tears they shed on our grave, and the earth will still perform its accustomed revolutions, the planets will still shine, and the laws of nature still be observed; and every thing will pass on as gaily and briskly as though we had never existed, and thus to our own humiliation we learn that we are born, and few will rejoice, and die, and few will mourn.

"The gay will laugh
When thou art gone; the solemn brood of care
Plod on; and each one as before, will choose
His favorite phantom."

ELECTA.

OXYGEN DECOMPOSED.

When repeated charges of electricity are passed through a jar filled with atmospheric air or with pure oxygen gas, the oxygen acquires new properties. It emits peculiar order, it produces extraordinary bleaching powers, and has its infirmities, or power of combining with other substances, very largely increased. Schonbein, who first discovered this fact, supposed that he had found a new substance, and he gave it the name of ozone, from the Greek, *ozo*, odor; its most striking peculiarity being the odor which it emitted.—

It has since been ascertained that ozone may be produced by passing oxygen through moist phosphorus, and in other ways, the various phenomena connected with it have led chemists generally to the opinion that ozone is oxygen electrified, or in some allitroped condition.

Natural electric discharges produce ozone in the atmosphere, and as oxygen in this condition is more energetic in its action on the blood, as well as in all its other actions, this may account for the peculiarly exhilarating properties of the air after a thunder-storm. On the other hand, sulphuretted hydrogen and other gasses arising from cess-pools absorb ozone, and this may be the cause of the bad effect on health produced by the vicinity of these pools. It may also be the true nature of malaria.

We find in *La Repertoire de Chimie* an account of some recent investigations which have revived the first idea of Schonbein, that ozone is not oxygen, but a separate element. Messrs. Andrews and Tait, after a long series of observations, regard the conclusion as probable that oxygen is a compound substance, and ozone is one of its elements.—*Scientific American.*

INNOCENCE.—What a power there is in innocence—whose very helplessness is its safeguard; in whose presence even Passion himself stands abashed, and stands worshipping at the very altar he came to despoil.

FEMALE EDUCATION.

Let the education of the young woman be commensurate with her influence. Is it true that, in the completion of social life, she is the mistress of that which decides its hues? Then let her be trained to wield this fearful power with skill, with principle, and for the salvation of a wretched man. Does she sometimes bear the sceptre of a nation's well-being in her hand? Cato said of his countrymen, "The Romans govern the world, but it is the women that govern the Romans."

The discovery of this very contingent testifies to the political influence of women. Who favored the bold genius of Columbus? Do you say Ferdinand of Spain? I answer Isabella, prompting her partner to the patronage he so reluctantly bestowed. Her influence unexercised, the Genoese mariner had never worn the laurel that now graces his brow. Will you now leave this all-potent being illiterate, to rear sons debased by ignorance, and become dupes of the demagogue?

Look at the domestic circle! Not more surely does the expenses of night illuminate and beautify the whole canopy of heavy, than does woman, if educated aright, irradiate, and give her fairest tints to her own fireside. To leave her uncultivated, a victim of ignorance, prejudice, and the vices they entail, is to take home to our bosoms a brood that will inflict pangs sharper than death. For the love and honor of our homes, let us encourage the most liberal culture of the female mind.—*Young Maiden.*

A NEW ARTICLE MADE FROM OLD SHOES.

A patent has lately been taken out in England by T. Gee, of Nottingham, for manufacturing a new article to be used for belting, the upper of shoes, and various other purposes for which pure leather has been hitherto employed. He first takes old boots and shoes, old harness, belts, &c., cuts them in small pieces, washes them thoroughly in water and reduces them to a soft pulpy condition by soaking. After this he rolls them out between rollers, dries and mixes them with minute quantities of hemp or flax fiber. They are now intimately united together with a strong solution of glue or gutta serena, then rolled out into bands for belts, or pressed into molds for the uppers of shoes, or other articles designed to be manufactured from it. This is designed to be the conversion of what has been considered waste substances to useful purposes.

We have seen wrapping paper and several other articles manufactured out of waste leather, but they all lacked strength. The mixing of flax fiber with the leather pulp may impart to it sufficient tenacity to render it strong and durable.

THE POST OF DUTY.—You have your work to do for Christ *where you are*. Are you on a sick bed? Still you have work to do for Christ there, as much as the highest servant of Christ in the world.—The smallest twinkling star is as much a servant of God as the mid day sun. Only live for Christ where you are.