

they seem. So it is with pupils. Once a child said to me on the first day, "I sha'n't like you." She had taken a dislike to me from my looks. I bestirred myself and determined she should like me. About two weeks after she lingered behind and said, "I like you ever so much." I felt I had gained a victory. We cannot improve under those we do not love.—*C. D. Elmore, in New York School Journal.*

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**ELECTRICAL TRAMWAYS.**—Electricity has entirely banished animal power on the street railroads in Scranton, Pennsylvania. The People's Street Railroad Company, which now operates all the lines in the city, was one of the first to try the electric motor, and has been, in operation, one of the most successful. There are in all twenty-five miles of street railroad in the city and its suburbs,

some of which is very difficult to operate, having very short curves and grades as high as 10 per cent. The ordinary duty of a car is about 100 miles per day. The system in use is the overhead wire, the power-wire being carried above the track on brackets suspended from cross-wires stretched from poles on either side of the street. A feeder-wire is carried on the poles on one side, so that in case of a break in the main wire, a new connection can be made at any point and current supplied without delay. The connection between the power wire and the car is made by a trolley carried on a long iron rod on top of the car, and the connection can be made or broken by a slight movement of the conductor's or driver's hand. The cars run very smoothly and well, and do not seem to experience any difficulty in climbing the steepest gradient. — *The Glasgow Herald.*

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## PUBLIC OPINION.

**PLINY AND THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.**—Furthermore, finding that there was no school at Comune, and that the boys had to be sent away to Milan to be educated, he engaged to pay one-third of the salary of a qualified teacher, and would have paid the whole had he not believed it was wrong to relieve the parent of his responsibility. "Where," says he, "could boys pass their time more pleasantly than in their own district, be subject to more virtuous control than under the eye of their parents, or be reared more cheaply than at home." These words and acts of Pliny are of special interest in the present day.—*James Cowan, M. A., Asst. Master, Manchester Grammar School.*

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**A MATRON.**—An alderman in Chicago is preparing a novel plan which

provides for the appointment of a matron for each public school, whose sole duty will be to keep an eye on the scholars and see that their clothing, shoes, and stockings are not wet before they enter upon their school duties. When the influenza epidemic was at its height, Alderman Powers learned that 30,000 children were stricken with the complaint, and after studying the matter he came to the conclusion that some of the children must have caught the epidemic because of the wet weather.—*The Schoolmaster.*

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**CHARACTER OF TEACHERS.**—The London School Board has taken a wise step in making confidential inquiries with regard to the moral character of candidates for appointment as teachers. General testimonials af-