

satisfaction of seeing that, although they might still lack the power to be exact, they no longer endeavored to hide their faults, but wished to have them corrected as they occurred.

"It is thus that the trained hand comes at last to foresee, as it were, that a false proposition is surely destined to be exploded. The habit of rectitude gives it prescience. It invariably discovers, sooner or later, that a false proposition, when embodied in wood or iron, becomes a conspicuous abortion, involving in disgrace both the designer and the maker. A false proportion in the abstract may be rendered very alluring; a false proportion in the concrete is always interesting. One of the chief effects of manual training is, then, the discovery and development of *truth*; and truth in its broadest signification is merely another name for justice; and justice is the synonym of morality."

Generally speaking, it has been found that in all the schools in which manual training has been introduced,—and this statement I make on the testimony of the teachers themselves,—that boys previously wholly intractable have become docile and easily managed. Their hands, which would otherwise be occupied with mischief, are necessarily employed, and useful work having been found interesting, they are less likely to be attracted to the useless.

Again, the concentration in mental work which the teacher has long vainly sought to obtain becomes comparatively easy after the habit of attention, which the use of tools compels, has been once formed. The mind of the dull boy, into which formerly it seemed almost impossible to knock an idea, becomes astonishingly receptive, and it dawns upon him that ideas, since they can be worked out into practical form, may possibly be of some use in the world.

One lesson, too, of the utmost importance to society is certainly taught, viz., that the labor of the hands, far from being the contemptible thing that it has been too much considered, is, when well done, an honor to both boys and girls, and a thing of which they may rightly be proud. They learn that what a man can do is his greatest ornament, and he always consults his dignity in doing it. The teaching of this grand principle alone, were no other good done, would justify the expenditure of all the time claimed for this kind of training.

As bearing out what I have been saying, I might call your attention to the great work being carried on at the present time by the corporation of Trinity Church, New York, which has organised a comprehensive system of industry schools. These