

## SELF-HELPS.

Said a great financier, the late Joseph E. Brown, of Georgia: "The secret of wealth getting is honesty. In the first place be honest with your own heart." He was an honest man. He began as the driver of an ox-cart, hauling pine-knot fuel to peddle on the streets of the county seat. When he had saved a few dollars he read law, first having picked up a little education by studying at night. He was not a ge-

nius; his mind was slow to a degree; but he had the prime gift of persistence in a single line of purpose. Integrity, simplicity and cool judgment won cases for him against the splendid eloquence of far more magnetic men. From the bar he passed to the bench, from the bench to the Governor's seat, which he held for several terms; then he was chosen a United States Senator.

## Mme LOUBET BELIEVES in AMERICAN EDUCATION

Mme Loubet, the wife of the President of France, has brought a severe storm of criticism upon herself by advocating in a speech to the French Mothers' Society, co-education and other American methods in training young ladies. Mme Loubet, who is a

great friend and admirer of a number of American ladies here, is sending six impecunious girl proteges to Vassar and Wellesley this fall. She has often expressed the belief that female education in the United States is better in every way than in Europe.

Before the establishment of the United States each province had its own paper currency in pounds, shillings and pence. The metallic currency was in Spanish dollars. These dollars, from their being of the value of eight reals, were called "pieces of eight." Accounts in the southern parts of North America were kept in dollars and reals, and as a distinguishing mark in the books a canceled figure of 8 was used. A period, or full stop, separated the digits representing the reals or eighths from those representing the dollars. When the United States adopted the dollar as a money unit it was found convenient to continue the old mark in the South and adopt it in the North. The present symbol, \$, therefore, is this conventionalized form of the old canceled figure 8, representing the coin of 8 reals.

Teachers should keep in mind the fact that the object of education is not learning, but ability. The world is looking for men who can do things well, who can grasp a situation and act independently and intelligently. Teachers should ever be ready to combat the theory that a young person needs a "pull" in these days to obtain a foothold in the business world. No one ever heard of a clerk being promoted above another unless his qualifications

entitled him to such advancement. When large interests are at stake no employer will entrust the vital affairs of his business to anyone simply because one of his ancestors did something for somebody else, nor will he stop to inquire whether such ancestor came by way of Plymouth Rock or Castle Garden. The education that is needed today is that which teaches a child how to act promptly, how to concentrate his energies, and be loyal to a trust.

This is an age of specialization. Men "really competent to do some one in every line of business. In most vocations there are many fully described who when their hair gets gray complain that they are put aside for younger men.

The young man who would succeed in these days of sharp competition in this city, which is the Mecca of bright young men from all parts of this country and Europe, must choose some special line of work and then make up his mind that he will be better in his chosen line than any one else.

To be able to do one thing better than any one else is a surer path to permanent success than to be able to do half a dozen things passably well.—  
New York World.