

Into the sunshine as quickly as possible! O, is not that the better philosophy for our homes? Is it not a Christian philosophy? It is selfishness that grows angry and repels because a fault has been committed. Let us get the offender into the sunshine as quickly as possible, so that true thoughts and right feelings may grow vigorous in its warmth. We retain anger, not that anger may act as wholesome discipline, but because we are unwilling to forgive. Ah, if we were always right with ourselves, we would oftener be right with our children.



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TEACHERS' CONVENTION.

A Convention of the Teachers' Association for the East Riding of the County of Northumberland was held in the Union School Room, in Brighton, on Saturday, 6th instant.

There were about fifty Teachers present.

In the absence of E. Scarlett, Esq., President, Mr. Isaac Squier was moved to the chair.

The following is a list of the subjects, with the names of the Lecturers:—

Grammar—Messrs. J. O'Sullivan and John Bell.

The Convention then adjourned for two hours.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Dr. Gould, Vice-President, in the chair.

Arithmetic—Mr. Isaac Squier.

Algebra—Messrs. J. Macoun and W. Squier.

Geometry—Mr. W. F. Hawking.

Mr. E. D. Sherman then introduced his system of teaching Geography by singing, after which Dr. Gould read the following lecture on the

LAWS OF LIFE.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

May I say in the commencement of the present hour's exercise "that we live in an age of progression." Many great men and nations are every where striving for honor and power; and amid all this commotion and strife for greatness the inquiring mind naturally asks, "who is the greatest man of the age?" Is it he who commands armies and nations,—who

causes Kings and crowns to tremble?—No—far from it! His imaginary laurels are won at the expense of others, and every inspiration of such honor but saps the vital element from the heart of suffering humanity. The tears and sorrows of women and children pay too dearly the forfeit, and every effort for power but proves him a slave to ambition. Is it he who gives advice to the world,—who wins respect by his talent, eloquence, and affability to mankind? Such a man may be great in the eye of society; he may be deserving of praise, and yet not come within the scope of my definition of the greatest man. You may ask, then, "who is the greatest benefactor to mankind?" I unhesitatingly reply, it is the liberal thinker, who, by his unassuming wisdom, his ardent desire and untiring effort to benefit mankind, wins the love and esteem of all!—who looks with a liberal eye upon everything within the range of his vision,—is perfectly free from all prejudice,—is ready and willing to investigate everything for himself, and never takes the ideas of another for his own, without first subjecting them to the test of thorough investigation.

After these preliminary remarks, I propose to spend a few moments in the consideration of Animal Life and its dependencies in connection with Chemistry.

All substances on the face of the earth are constantly shifting and changing into three different conditions, namely, solid, liquid, and æiform, or gas. The principal cause of these changes is the great and important agent—*heat*, called, in the language of Chemistry, *caloric*. Thus, lead is a solid at the usual temperature, if heated to a great degree it melts into a fluid; if still farther forced by caloric it rises into vapor or air. It is the same with every body in existence. All substances on the face of the earth have certain properties, and those properties, in connection with heat, will make them appear visible or invisible. Thus, when charcoal, candles, and paper are burned, these substances disappear and become invisible. Matter, which in condition is perfectly opaque, and will not admit the least ray of light to pass through it, will in another form become quite transparent. The charcoal, candles, and paper, being burned, are not destroyed or lost; by Chemical means they can be recovered, and again be rendered visible; some in exactly the same state as they were before their invisibility; others, though not, in the same state, can be shown in their ele-

mentary condition; consequently it can be proved that matter, having once existed, never ceases to exist, although it can change its condition, like the caterpillar, which becomes a chrysalis and then a gorgeous butterfly.

When a bushel of charcoal is burned in a stove it disappears in consequence of the gas produced being mixed with the vast atmosphere, but yet the coal is still in the air.

The Creator of the universe has called into existence two very different and distinct principles—*mind* and *matter*—and has stamped the latter with different properties peculiar to itself, and endowed the former with certain powers or faculties, susceptible of an indefinite progressive state of improvement, and subject to pain and pleasure.

Thus man, with his two-fold nature, finds himself placed upon this our planet, where he is incessantly acting and being acted upon,—where he is subject to innumerable influences, exterior to himself, and may extend as many in return. At a glance upon surrounding objects we perceive everything changing. The rose that blushes to-day fades to-morrow.—Mutability and Change are written upon all visible forms. The orb of day, the sun of our system, is perpetually changing in aspect and position. All its attendant planets are subject alike to change and motion. The invisible atoms which compose the visible forms of the material world are undergoing perpetual revolutions. From the inorganic world, directly or indirectly, all living things originate, and to it they all return. From the mineral world, matter can pass only to the vegetable kingdom. A part of this returns by natural decay to the inorganic world, while another portion is consumed by herbivorous animals, and forms the fabric of their bodies. Some of the herbivorous animals die, are decomposed, and fall back into inorganic nature, while others are devoured by carnivorous animals and converted into their structure; the carnivora in their turn perish, rot, and are dissolved like the rest into gasses and earthy elements. Such is the mysterious round of organization, of which this globe is the scene. The particles of matter which compose our bodies are not to-day that they were yesterday, and probably never will be the same again.

Our minds, our feelings, our passions, and our associations cannot escape the general vortex of change. Not an individual within the hearing of my voice