

blood," which, if honestly traced, had run through the veins of many a culprit or penitentiary convict ; or of their riches, which, if the truth were known, were obtained by extortion and many other unlawful means. They grow up with such impressions, and soon find a disgraceful end. Then the mother weeps over the disgrace her son has brought upon the memory of the family, and blames his associates for it, not thinking that she, and only she, is to blame for the whole of it. Mothers, the destinies of your children depend upon *you*. Watch their infant minds, properly cultivate their moral sensibilities, and walk yourselves in the paths you would have them to walk.—*Christ. Rec.*

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### PREMATURE EDUCATION.

That the education of children should not be forced, like lettuces, in hot-houses, is become a popular idea. The more haste, in such business, the worse speed. We find the following opinions of learned authorities on this important subject :—

Often infants destined for different vocations of life, I should prefer that the one who is to study through life should be the least learned at the age of twelve—*Tissot*.

Intellectual effort, in the first years of life, is very injurious. All labour of mind which is required of children before their seventh year, is in opposition to the laws of nature, and will prove injurious to the organization and prevent its proper development.—*Hufeland*.

Experience demonstrates that of any number of children of equal intellectual powers, those that receive no particular care in infancy, and who do not learn to read and write until the constitution begins to be consolidated, but who enjoy the benefit of a good physical education, very soon surpass in their studies those who commenced earlier and read numerous books when very young.—*Spurzheim*.

Dr. Adam Clarke was a very unpromising child, and learned but little before he was eight or ten years old. But at this age he was "uncommonly hardy," and possessed bodily strength superior to most children. He was considered a "grievous dunce," and seldom praised by his father, except for his ability to roll large stones—an ability which I conceive a parent should be prouder to have his son possess, previous to the age of seven or eight, than that which would enable him to recite all that is contained in all of the manuals, magazines, and books for infants that have ever been published.—*Dr. Brigham*.

If a parent were seen urging and tempting and stimulating his child to the performance of an amount of labour with legs and arms, sufficient to tax the health and strength of a full grown man, all the world would cry, "Shame upon him, he has crippled his child with excessive work." Yet everybody seems to think, that though the limbs of children cannot, without injury, be urged and tasked to do