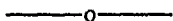


"A child of seven years of age read a stenographical phrase in natural history, though she could not write a dozen words."

We might add much more on this interesting and all important question of Hygiene of Schools and Kindergartens, but space will not permit. Suffice it to say that it is a system much to be encouraged, giving, as it does, such opportunities for mental development, *not* at the expense of physical energies, like the ordinary systems for the young.



VACCINO-PHOBIA.

The clamorous assertions of the anti-vaccinationist remind us of the opposition which was raised when Dr. Jenner first made his discovery, and sketches were published by his opponents, showing, amongst other dire effects of the introduction of the vaccine virus into the human system, people with cows' horns springing out of their foreheads; a style of illustration which might be aptly imitated by drawing pictures of the opponents of vaccination with asses' ears naturally growing from the sides of *their* heads.

On investigating this frothy, noisy opposition of what do we find it to consist? Of a number of men and women, for the most part illiterate, led by some few individuals, whose education has only sufficed to develop their weak mental points. The most active promoters of the agitation against vaccination are the proprietors of certain quack medicines. As to the class of speech of the vaccinophobists one knows not which to wonder at most, the folly of the speakers, or the fanaticism of the hearers of such rubbish. In every sentence uttered, "*suppressio veri*" and "*dictio falsi*" struggle for supremacy, and it is hard to say which has the upper hand.

It is gratifying to turn from the incoherent ravings of the anti-vaccination party to the mass of evidence which has been produced in proof of the value conferred upon mankind by Jenner's discovery. It is almost impossible to realize any commensurate idea of the ravages of small-pox previous to the introduction of vaccination; but some notion may be conveyed by the fact that during the eighteenth century 400,000 persons died