

uous, and frequently, painful duties, with unflinching steadiness, and enables them to persist in the lofty course of virtue with a composure and dignity which puts us often to the blush. Yet this quality does not make them haughty. On the contrary, you find it in company with meekness, patience, gentleness, and frequently with all that innocent gaiety of heart, and spirited gracefulness of manner which diffuse a charm around them, wherever they go. In such bright and attractive examples before us, let it never be said that rudeness is the necessary concomitant of decision of character.

SCIENTIFIC.

GEOMETRY.

Every person who, in his situation or calling in life may be, who has the intellectual improvement of the young at heart, may gather some useful hints from the following article.

The shape or form of objects is evidently one of the first subjects which come under the observation of children, and they consequently acquire much more knowledge of these forms than is generally supposed, at a very early period, even before they have words to express them. Much of the language in common daily use, evidently relates to geometrical figures, though it is more vague, than that design for pursuing the science in a systematic manner. The words straight, crooked, round, square, long, wide, corner, diamond, oblong, oval, and numerous others, are strictly adapted to geometry, as curved, circle, rhombus, rhomboid, triangle, equilateral, ellipse, sphere, cube, parallelepiped, cone, pyramid, cylinder, &c. which are constantly used in every stage of its fundamental sciences. The principal difference between the common and scientific language is, that one is vague and indefinite, the other precise and definite.

It is evident, as every child learns to learn words which have definite ideas attached to them, as those which are loose, and indefinite in their meaning. Rhombus is as easy to learn, or speak, as diamond. It is no more difficult to say oblong than oblong-square, Cylinder is as easy to speak and to understand, as round block; cube as a square block, triangle as a receded, or a three cornered figure.

One advantage of the scientific terms to express Geometrical figures: while common terms are defective, providing no words for numerous figures. Rhomboid, for example, refers to a genus of a particular shape which we have no common word to express.

A professed turner in Boston, was recently requested to turn a cone, he replied, that he did not know what it was. He asked another worker in the shop, if he had ever seen a cone; he replied no. This may seem to some like great ignorance, but it is believed that if all the people in N. England were asked what a cone was, thousands would expose the same ignorance. And yet cone is the name of a solid, which every person sees every day of his life, and it is known by no other name. A cabinet-maker in Boston, who had been constantly employed for thirty years in making geometrical figures of one shape or another, was employed to make some prisms, pyramids, &c; he was asked if the pyramids were done; he replied that he got some things done, but he did not know the names of any of them.

Thousands of cabinet makers in the country, probably are equally unfortunate.

Any one who will examine the subject for a moment, will see that the names and properties of all the elementary figures in geometry, are wholly within the capacities of very young children. A child will as readily learn the word cone, as the word secretary, or looking glass, or table, or knife, and as readily attach a definite meaning to one as the other. Learning the names of things is the appropriate business of early childhood, and it would probably be difficult to give a reason why the names of the various geometrical figures may not be as easily, or as profitably learned, as those of any other objects which are constantly around them. — *Education Reporter*

SCRIPTURE GEOGRAPHY.

RAMM.—There were several towns in Palestine of this name, which signifies a high place. One of the roads between Jerusalem and Emmaus, still retains the name of Ramata Zophan, and was in all probability the birth place of the prophet Samuel. Near it, and close to the road are the remains of a strong and spacious edifice apparently of the same architecture as the tower of Antonia in Jerusalem, and other ruins in different parts of the country.

THE POOL OF BETHZESAI.—This pool, mentioned by the Evangelist John, ch. v. as the place of a remarkable cure, was near the sheep market of Jerusalem and just by the gate through which the sheep were driven into the city. At present it is in general dry, though at some seasons a little water trickles into it through the north wall, but formerly it must have been better supplied; as the sheep purchased for sacrifice in the temple were washed in it. In the time of the Evangelist it had five porticoes around it, but these are not now to be seen.

THE FOUNTAIN OF SILEO.—It is on the south-east of the city, and opposite the site of the temple. It has a considerable flow of brackish water, but Josephus says it was much more abundant than usual during the siege of Jerusalem by Titus, to which he was an eye witness, supplying the Roman army with plenty of water; and he adds, that Nebuchadnezzar experienced the same benefit from it. This is the pool to which we are informed by John, chap. xi. Christ sent the man, that was born blind, to wash his eyes.

GERUSAZIM.—This place is still fruitful in olives, and in it is shown a garden, the same it is said, in which Christ was betrayed. Not far distant to the north is the church erected by St Helena, the mother of Constantine, to cover the reputed sepulchre of the Virgin Mary. All that appears of the church above ground is a plain square building, immediately on entering which you descend a handsome pair of stairs, consisting of fifty steps. These lead into a spacious church, stretching east and west, walled on each side and arched above by the natural rock. In the centre of the church, and on the right hand from the foot of the stairs, is a small square chapel, fashioned out of the rock, but faced within and without with white marble. At the east end of this chapel, and occupying more

than a third of it, is the tomb, in form of an altar, over which 18 lamps are constantly burning; the expense of which is defrayed in part by the Mahomedans, who hold this place in particular veneration. About the middle of the great staircase are two smaller chapels opposite to each other, that on the left containing the tomb of Mary, and that on the right the sepulchres of Joseph and Anna, her parents.

MISCELLANEOUS.

From the Friend of Youth.

EVEN A CHILD IS KNOWN BY HIS DOINGS.— In that beautiful part of Germany which borders on the Rhine, there is a noble old castle, which as you travel on the western banks of the river, you may see lifting its ancient towers on the opposite side, above the groves. Trees which are about as old as itself. About forty years ago there lived in that castle a certain noble gentleman, whom we will call Baron. The Baron had an only son, whom he had brought up so carefully and so piously, that with the Divine favour he was not only a comfort to his father, but a blessing to all the poor-people who lived on his father's land.

It happened on a certain occasion, that this young man being from home, there came a French gentleman to see the old Baron, who was one of those wicked persons who did not love nor fear God.

As soon as this gentleman came into the castle, he began to talk in a very wicked way; on which the old Baron reproved him, saying, "Are you not afraid of offending God who reigns above," by speaking in such a manner?"

The gentleman answered that he knew nothing about God, for he had never seen him.

The Baron took no notice at this time of what the gentleman said, but the next morning he took him about his castle and his grounds, and took occasion first to show him a very beautiful picture which hung on the wall.

The gentleman admired it very much and said, "Whoever drew the picture, knows very well how to use his pencil."

"I did draw that picture," said the Baron. "Then your son is a very clever man," replied the gentleman.

The Baron then took his visitor into his garden and showed him many fine flowers, and plants of various kinds.

"Who has the ordering of this garden?" said the gentleman.

"My son," replied the Baron; "he knows every plant, I may say from the cedar of Lebanon to the hyssop on the wall."

"Indeed," said the gentleman, "I shall think very highly of him soon."

The Baron then took him into the village and showed him a small neat cottage where the young Baron had established a little school, and where he caused all the poor little babes he had lost their parents to be received and nurtured at his own expense.

The children in this house looked so innocent and so happy, that the French gentleman was very much pleased, and when he returned to the castle he said to the Baron, "what a happy man you are to have so good a son."

"How do you know I have a good son?" answered the Baron.

"Because I have seen his works," returned the gentleman, "and I know that he must be