

were made to hold weights at arm's length, to "sit on nothing" with the back against the wall and the feet at leg-length therefrom, or to do anything which would be excruciating, humiliating and degrading. If they flinched they were whipped for it. To make the thing especially obnoxious, boys were sometimes sent out to get whips with which to be whipped ; and some-

times boys who were not involved in trouble were sent for whips with which to whip their brothers or associates in order to make the affair particularly unbearable. These things seem impossible or gross exaggerations, but there is no one of them which, without pleading to very advanced age, I do not personally remember.—*The School Journal.*

### INGRATITUDE IN CITIZENSHIP.

A MAN cannot be a true man who ignores his dependence upon God's government of the universe. Man's very life is secured to him through that government, and in it he lives and moves, and has his being. If he says, or by his action seems to say, that he owes nothing to God, and that he cares not for God's government, he thereby shows himself to be either thoughtless and silly, or defiantly ungrateful. Gratitude for what is his in and through the government of God is a legitimate consequence of a man's intelligent apprehension, and of his fitting appreciation, of what that government is to him and to his.

So also it is in a man's relation to civil government in its best and highest aspects. A man is born under civil government. He is preserved in life by the processes of civil government. His commonest enjoyments and his most sacred privileges are secured to him through the operations of the civil government which is over him and about him. If he ignores his dependence on that government, and his obligations to it, if he says that it is nothing to him, and that he neither asks anything from it nor owes anything to it, he shows his pitiable ignorance or his culpable folly. He is not a full-grown and a well-rounded man as a Christian citizen.

Yet there are men who have no thought of God and God's government in their minds. And there are Christian citizens who live as if they had no obligations to, or responsibilities for, the workings of the civil government under which God has set them in his providence, and in the direction of which he has assigned to them a definite share. Such men are thoughtless, or they are wrong thinkers. At the best they are lacking in their duties as citizens, and in their gratitude for citizenship.

The Bible teaches us that the human "powers that be are ordained of God ;" that the human ruler as our ruler is "a minister of God." Paul, even though he stood as a special representative of God, recognized his position as a Roman citizen, and felt called on to use the rights and privileges of his human citizenship for the furtherance of the gospel of Christ. Yet this was while Nero was emperor of Rome, and while there was as much of imperfectness and of perversion of power in the government to which he gave allegiance, as in any government since that day. How much greater reason is there that an American citizen should recognize his allegiance to and the obligation of his duties under the government, for the very forms and powers of