

sitions or problems of Euclid. The examiner of this class, Mr. Steuben of New York, writes thus on some of these scientific subjects: "The action of the common pump was explained in such a manner as to show that the mind saw the conditions, and worked the pump in imagination. The steam-engine was illustrated and defined; and it was manifest that the pupil worked the piston, and condensed the steam in his own thought and feeling."

And yet in the face of this testimony, that on some subjects the pupils exhibited their knowledge by signs, and not in written language, and committed to memory and reproduced answers on others, the Chief Superintendent is sure the system of Sicard, imported from France by Dr. Gallaudet, "laid the foundation of the *most practical, comprehensive, and complete system of deaf-mute education which the world had ever witnessed.*" Compare this character of the system pursued in the United States, with that of the Principal to be imported, and we have perfection on the one hand, and angelic purity on the other.

The character of the Principal runs thus:—"The strong common sense, and sound judgment; the truly christian heart and highly cultivated intellect; the good address and ready tact; the unwearied industry and patient kindness; the sincere piety and perennial love of the young and helpless; the physical strength and mental vigour required in a Principal of such an Institution, renders the selection as really difficult as it is supremely important!!" If departed spirits were permitted to re-visit this world: nay, more, if the Angel Gabriel assumed human nature—with reverential awe be it said—put off his robes of glory, came down upon earth, and took up his abode in the States for the short space of a month, he only could fulfil the required conditions above recited.

To return to the "*most practical, comprehensive, and complete system of deaf-mute education which the world had ever witnessed,*" as founded upon Sicard's system, and introduced by Laurent Clerc, his celebrated pupil, into the United States. Dr. Peet compares the application of Sicard's signs to "the *rebuses* formed of fantastic hieroglyphical figures," and that the greatest defect of these methodical signs, as used in the School of Sicard was the tendency to use the same sign for all the different meanings of a word. Hence the more significant, and appropriate the sign for one meaning, the greater the confusion of ideas when applied to a different meaning. Bebian (Sicard's successor) whose system is now pursued in the New York Institution, relates that "one day, seeing one of Sicard's assistant