

and precise expression, but you must carry on the operation inside the mind, and not merely by practising literary deportment on paper. It is not everybody who can command the rhythm of the greatest masters of human speech. But every one can make reasonably sure that he knows what he means, and whether he has found the right word. These are internal operations and are not forwarded by writing for writing's sake. I am strong for attention to expression, if that attention be exercised in the right way. It has been said a million times that the foundation of right expression in speech or writing is sincerity. It is as true now as it has ever been. Right expression is a part of character. As somebody has said, by learning to speak with precision, you learn to think with correctness; and firm and vigorous

speech lies through the cultivation of high and noble sentiments. I think, as far as my observation has gone, that men will do better for reaching precision by studying carefully and with an open mind and a vigilant eye the great models of writing, than by excessive practice of writing on their own account."

If this is true for adult students, those capable of pursuing university studies, can we say too emphatically that for our primary and grammar school pupils precision and power are not gained "by excessive practice of writing on their own account?"

Strive manfully: habit is overcome by habit.—*Thomas a Kempis.*

Kindness is the golden chain by which society is bound together.—*Goethe.*

THE FULLER STUDY OF GEOGRAPHY.

BY ARTHUR MONTEFIORE.

PLACE-NAMES.

Ancient place-names may be regarded as philological fossils, for just as the geological fossil is mutely eloquent of the unwritten history of the earth, so the philological fossil reveals to us the unwritten and otherwise unknowable history of man and his habitations. The prudent teacher will therefore not fail to show how much there is in a name. He will gather from place-names, as he would read from monumental epitaphs, the character, the faith, the gradual progress of civilization, the habitations; nay, the very existence of ancient and occasionally extinct peoples. He will be able to compile with considerable accuracy their social and religious history, not,

be it noted, from deeds and charters, or chronicles and songs, but from a careful consideration of that simple thing—a name! And, moreover, by reading a name aright, he will discover those natural changes which have passed over the face of the locality, and which geologists and botanists might well have failed to perceive. The study of place-names, therefore, is of utility to both the historical and physical sides of geography, and it must be regarded as a potent factor in geographical education.

I will illustrate, for the benefit of the sceptical or inexperienced, what I mean by utilizing place-names. In describing a locality of England in Saxon times, it would be necessary to point out not only the headquarters