

In play out of doors	1½ hours
“ washing, dressing, meals, etc	3 “
“ bible reading and devotional exercises	1 “
“ reading and recreation in cottages	1½ “
“ sleep	10 “

During the holidays this programme is slightly varied.

Allow me to give in outline the chief features of the work in the important departments of our school. Undoubtedly the most important of them is the

SCHOOL OF LETTERS.

Here we have to deal more exclusively with the intellectual training of our boys, and here are required those traits of character essential to the successful teacher, viz., patience, perseverance and aptitude in imparting instruction. For it must be remembered that many of our boys are quite illiterate on entering the school, while their general intelligence is below the average of boys in more favored circumstances in life. So that progress is necessarily slow. Of their studies, reading seems to be the most difficult for the boys to grasp, and by reading we mean the power to interpret the sentiment of the author. Nor need this be wondered at, when we consider that the average age of those who cannot read on entering the school is about 11 years. This is largely attributable to the fact that a large number of the boys were persistent truants before their committment.

Another subject in which the boys show a marked deficiency is English composition and hence a great deal of attention is given to the teaching and practice of this important part of the curriculum, especially that part of it that finds practical expression in letter-writing. But even in this there has been a very marked improvement of late as shown in the letters sent home from time to time. On the whole there is ground for encouragement to the painstaking, efficient teachers who have charge of this department. In this, as in all work of reform, it is “line upon line : here a little and there a little.”

Nor are habits of cleanliness, carefulness and prompt obedience neglected. These are at all times insisted on, and the effect of persistent effort in these higher lessons is seen in the general behaviour of the boys.

As a means of aiding the teacher and in giving a more general