

course. There is also a rapidly-growing expenditure on technical education in the larger colonies. But the crown of the educational system of Australasia is seen in the splendid universities of Sydney and Melbourne. When the smallness of population and kindred circumstances are taken into consideration, the word "splendid" is not a term of excessive laudation. Adelaide has a small teaching university; the university of New Zealand is an examining authority to a number of teaching colleges; Queensland is now moving in the direction of university education; but it is in the capitals of Victoria and New South Wales that the nearest approaches to Oxford and Cambridge must be looked for. With their groups of affiliated colleges and their medical schools, the universities of Melbourne and Sydney will live for ever and honorably in Australian civilization. And the same future may be confidently predicted for the universities in what are now less populous colonies.

—The Department of Agriculture of Victoria, Australia, sent circulars to the head teachers of all the State schools outside of the metropolitan area a short time ago, asking for their views as to the desirability of giving instruction in agriculture to the children attending those schools. Of 1,248 teachers, 84 per cent. are favorable to the introduction of agricultural lessons in the rural schools, and 34 per cent. of them already have some acquaintance with the theories of agriculture. In fifty-two cases school children already care for gardens or trees in the school reserves, and the majority of the scholars attending 369 other schools have garden plots or assist their parents at home in gardening. In 162 schools the pupils have regularly made collections of wild flowers, weeds, grasses, insects, and butterflies, and these collections have been used in object lessons.

—On August 12th one hundred and three elementary teachers from the country came into the provincial capital, Malaga, to urge the government to force the communities to pay them their back salary. For over ten years these teachers had not received pay. Hundreds of others have the same trouble, and though the minister promised to do what he could and the provincial authorities are willing to aid the teachers, there is no prospect of their relief. Those Spanish teachers have not the courage a Prussian teacher showed a year or so ago. When the village council withheld his salary, he sued, obtained judgment, and, aided by his friends, he seized the fire-engine, drove it to a neighboring town and sold it at auction.

—Stands Scotland where it stood in regard to religious instruction? At a meeting of the Free Presbytery of Edinburgh