

habitable country for a mining population. With good coal available there in ample supplies, life will be shorn of much of the terrors hitherto incident to the climate.

The Best School of Journalism.—The Philadelphia *Bulletin* argues that "the only school for a practical editor is the newspaper office. The scissors is the first good teacher. A daily overhaul of exchange papers is better than the study of library or text-books, prepared by learned men, who prate about the "profession of journalism." A lad of average brains, who has received a common school education, who understands grammar enough to avoid flagrant errors, and arithmetic enough to compile election returns, can train himself to become a very fair editor by beginning as errand boy, or boy of all work in the editorial room of a respectable daily paper, where there are men whose example is a daily lesson, and whose correction of mistakes is given promptly, but kindly. One man becomes a good editor, just as another man becomes a good railroad president, by perseverance, energy and careful attention. Journalism is like railroad management and financiering in these respects, though far less profitable." It is not consonant with the spirit of modern advancement to attempt to discourage any system of education which will increase the fitness of any one for the position he is to occupy in life. The only question is, whether the "school of journalism proposed" will really effect that object. After the rudiments of education are thoroughly acquired, it is a question whether a man will do best if still further shut out from his fellows, or if it will not really be better that he should mix with them and learn his trade by pursuing it. The question is right here, and those who write for or against should confine themselves to it.

Captured Cotton.—The total amount realized by the Treasury from sales of captured and abandoned property in the South, chiefly cotton, was \$20,910,506. Of this amount there have been paid to claimants, under the award of the Court of Claims, \$6,311,436; under judgments in the United States Court for New-York, \$27,029; and awards by the Secretary of the Treasury under the Act of May, 1871, \$97,764. The fund has also been diminished by \$25,100, expenses of collection, leaving a balance in the Treasury of \$14,411,479. There remain unpaid judgments of the Court of Claims, amounting to \$1,834,011.

New Comet.—Professor Henry received by telegraph (Feb. 23) the announcement of the discovery of a comet from the Academy of Sciences of Vienna, in right ascension 20 hours 43 minutes, faint motion, south east 2½ degrees

Telegrams Sacred as Letters.—In a recent contested election case in England an order was issued for the production in court of certain telegraphic correspondence which had passed during the campaign. A clerk who carried in a bag full of telegrams refused to deliver them unless specially ordered by the court, and the Judge, after considering the matter three days, refused to issue the order, withholding his reasons on the ground that future cases might arise wherein such interposition might be justified by strong specific circumstances. The result is an earnest discussion as to whether telegrams, when under government control, ought not to be kept as sacred as letters, and absolutely free from espionage.

—Daniel Webster, writing to a friend, in 1850, spoke as follows of education:—"You speak very properly, my dear sir, of the claims of science and religion on the minds of sober, intelligent man. But undoubtedly a religious feeling and religious convictions are the things which direct science to its best uses. "Knowledge should be baptized into Christianity, and the more we know the more deeply ought we to feel the truth of that more important declaration, that the fear of God is the beginning of wisdom."

Wages for Labor in Europe.—Sixty cents a day is considered good wages for a workingman in any of the European countries except Great Britain, where the wages are somewhat higher. In the Tyrol silk region and in Italy they often do not get more than ten cents. In the country in Germany ten cents is the common pay. Women there often get but five cents. In Sweden men often work from four o'clock in the morning till nine in the evening, and do not get any more. During the late war many poor women in Berlin were hired to knit stockings for the soldiers for five cents. The profits of the poor who keep petty shops, sell trinkets in the streets, or act as sutlers do not average more than three or four cents. Barbers

in Berlin, since the raising of their prices, get five cents for hair-cutting and two and a half cents for shaving. Servants at hotels get from three to eight dollars a month. Servant-girls in private families often get but ten dollars a year. Sometimes these classes cannot get work at any price.

Schools and Health.—At the annual meeting of the American Social Science Association, in New-York, last month, two notable papers were presented, in which all parents, teachers, and school officers are interested.

Dr. Alfred L. Carroll read a paper on "Sanitary Science in Schools and Colleges." Hygiene should, he said, pave the road for all other human advances—commercial, intellectual, and even moral. The most competent observers are inclined to attribute habitual crime, in many instances, to physical degeneration; and they have, he said, ecclesiastical authority for the assertion that the form of a man's religious belief is intimately connected with the state of his digestive organs. Yet there is no subject of which mankind at large is more deplorably ignorant than this code of health. With very few exceptions, our undergraduate academies are content to leave hygiene as a matter of purely medical doctrine, forgetting that the preservation of health is a matter which almost exclusively concerns the non-medical public, whose intercourse with physicians seldom begins until after violation of sanitary laws has induced actual disease, when the time for the "ounce of prevention" is past and the "pound of cure" alone is sought. It is to the lack of rudimentary knowledge which everyone should possess that we owe more than half the mortality of the world and a very much larger proportion of its sickness. To this are due the appalling death-rate of infancy, the slow devitalization of children in overcrowded, illventilated school-rooms, the crippling of operatives in deleterious trades, the myriad evil effects of sewage poisoning, the generation and perpetuation of endemic disease, the ravages of epidemic contagious maladies, and less directly, but perhaps almost as surely, a great part of the intemperance and moral decadence which are as often the consequences as the causes of insanitary conditions among the poorer classes. Nowhere is sufficient prominence accorded to hygiene. Of the thirty-seven colleges in the United States he knew of but four that have chairs of hygiene. Hygiene should be made an essential feature of every grade of education, and taught with the thoroughness it merits. From the lowest form up to the graduating class of every college, he would give in a progressive course. No more effective method could be devised for the suppression of ignorant quackery than to teach the public something of the philosophy of life and health, and no better legacy could be prepared for posterity than to tell those who are to give birth to coming generations how to fulfill their parental duties and to transmit an unimpaired inheritance of health to their heirs.

Dr. D. F. Lincoln, Secretary of the Department of Health, next read a report on "School Hygiene." The Department of Health, he said, had been paying attention to this subject of late, and had drawn up a list of thirteen topics which covered, or nearly covered, the ground in question. These were: Heating and Ventilation, Light (Condition of Scholars' Eyes), Seats (Deformities Traceable to Them), Architectural Plans, Apparatus employed in Instruction, Gymnastics, Condition of Nervous System, Organ of Hearing, Organs of Pelvic Cavity, Drinking Water, Sewage and Water-closets, Commissioners for Scientific Inspection of School Areas, and Project of a Law Establishing the Office of the Medical Inspector of Schools. In reference to the first point, he said that the air furnished for the use of the school-room should be heated before it was brought into the room. It should not be roasted, so to speak, but should contain sufficient moisture. The method of its removal when polluted was not, he said, a wholly settled question. Good ventilation, he considered, must be expensive, for the reason that the expulsion of impure air was accomplished by a great deal of heat which was absolutely thrown away. Adequate ventilation in a crowded room implied a dangerous amount of draft of air. Scarcely a school-room existed that was not so crowded that any attempt to bring in enough fresh air would be impossible. The remedy, he conceived, was only to be found by placing fewer scholars in one room. With reference to the second point, Dr. Lincoln said it was well known from foreign sources that school work was bad for scholar's eyes. The best known series of observations upon this point came from Dr. Cohn, of the Prussian town of Breslau. The German nation was a spectacled nation, and he thought it might be safely affirmed that near-sight had begun to prevail very largely