

most distinguished men of Athens accompanied him through streets and fields and groves to listen to his instructions : His pupils Plato and Aristotle were teachers, the influence of their works is to this day instructive, "Plato thou reasonest well else why this longing after immortality."

The office of teacher has been dignified by Our Savior himself : so in its very nature it is the highest office : That it is not universally considered as such arises from the fact that too many have embraced this profession, without fitness of mind or character to nobly fulfill its numerous duties : as well as from a fact that is patent in certain communities, this fact is : there is too great an apathy on the part of parents and guardians when it becomes a question of appreciating or considering a teacher's qualifications : The consequence is that good, bad and middling are all classed in the same category : Their respective merits or demerits do not change their position one iota in the scale of public estimation.

It is astonishing to find that in every other profession, superior genius and skill is sought after and must be obtained, but as to the teacher the common impression prevails that any person of tolerable character, who has acquired the elements of the branches to be taught is qualified to teach, there is scarcely any question of such a thing as a mind to act upon, habits to form or character to influence. But is this individual idea or public idea carried into operation when a competent hand is required