

of the letters can be learned during the first three or four years of school life, and there is no need of further lessons being given. (4) There is great gain to the teachers in looking over the papers, and there are fewer errors. (5) The pupils are more apt to be neat in their work. The tendency to the running hand and the careless, hurried scribbling of children is obviated. (6) It helps spelling, especially the orthography of eye-minded pupils. (7) All hygienic reasons are in its favour. The pupil is required to take the front position and sit erect, with the paper square in front of him, the position of the pen being such that he can easily see the letters he is making without turning his head to one side to do so. The letters, being round and full, are easily seen, and the pupil is less inclined to lie down on the desk. The pen should be coarse and properly held, and the line strong and evenly executed. The paper should be narrow—not more than eight inches.

—An attempt is being made to make merry at the expense of head masters of schools who look after the physical welfare of their pupils, to the extent of engaging junior masters who add to their learning the qualification of excellence at football or cricket. "What are we coming to?" is the cry on reading an advertisement in which a preference is expressed for a cricket or football "blue." Our reply (says the *Daily Graphic*) would be that we are coming to our senses. We listen to the dictum of our doctors that the human frame, to keep it in proper working order, requires a great deal more exercise than the average individual obtains, and admire its wisdom, but when anyone puts the thing into sensible practice, we scoff. The surest way to breed young scholars who will do a school credit in after years, is to plant the learning in a soil where it can fructify, and not fade away with the rapidity of a hot-house plant.

—At a meeting of the governing body of Owens College, Manchester, a letter was read from the residuary legatees of Sir Joseph Whitworth, stating they had learned that a new general hospital, in close connection with the college, was much needed, in which the students may receive practical instruction in medicine and surgery. The letter proceeds to say that the legatees will, as a commencement of such a hospital, make over a sufficient site for the building and contribute not less than thirty-five thousand pounds towards the cost of the erection and furnishing the first portion, in addition to which they will provide an annual income of one thousand pounds.