

peated dogma that Vertical writing is the only *natural* writing.

The advantage of being able to write with both hands is incalculable, as the Lancet points out, and Vertical writing is the only method that renders this practicable.

Before taking up the last and most important argument of all in the debate I would make passing reference to the grave question of bad writing. Surely three hundred years are a sufficient test, and notwithstanding all this and the advantages of modern advances in the Science of Education, notwithstanding the improvements in methods, teachers, apparatus and buildings, it is a recognised truth that the national standard of Calligraphy is miserably, unaccountably low, until we reach the root of this plague of Scribblers in the *Slope* of the Calligraphy.

*Slope produces bad writers. Verticality produces good writers.*

A peculiarity of this new system of Vertical writing is that it satisfies all the requirements, of Official Examiners and it has been pronounced by several heads of departments and official authorities to be the most perfect civil service writing hitherto, and capable of being produced.

Our concluding argument, however, is one that must be approached with all the seriousness at our disposal. It involves the recently discovered relation of handwriting to Hygiene. Medical experts of the highest reputation in their respective departments, have given this subject their closest attention for years and after conducting many series of exhaustive experiments—requiring the examination of many thousands of school children—they assure us that sloping writing is most pernicious in its effects upon the physical frame.

They tell us that Sloping writing is one of the chief causes of Spinal Curvature; that Myopia or Shortsight

is induced and encouraged by it in thousands of cases; that Pulmonary or Chest diseases are also produced or developed to an alarming degree by Sloping writing, and that it gives rise in many cases to Writer's Cramp. All these diseases have been clearly traced to the postures taught in and required by Sloping writing. The results here epitomized are duly and scientifically set forth in long and learned essays and lectures still in print. For a fairly full discussion of this vital point the reader is referred to a manual "The Theory and Practice of Handwriting" now being published by Sampson Low & Co. S. Dunstons, 110 Fetter Lane, E. C.

How many of our hardworked city clerks succumb to one or other of these maladies caused directly by the sloping writing and sink into premature graves it is impossible accurately to determine, but that the list is a terribly long one there is no manner of doubt.

If, as we have irrefragable testimony to prove, so many thousands of our children contract these diseases by practising slanting writing, there can be no question that very large number of our adult slopers suffer in a similar manner and from the same cause.

In all respects then and for all purposes Upright Penmanship establishes its supremacy.

It is healthier for the writer, it is easier and quicker to write, it is easier or plainer to read, and it is far more economical than any system of slope hand writing whatever.

Why is it not general, universal?

For three centuries Slant has dominated and it has failed utterly to make us a nation of writers. The time has come for "Slope" to disappear. Let it be deposed.

Every young man should help in this Crusade and Reform Movement by becoming himself a Vertical writer