

"growth," "faculty," "organs," "functions," "development," and "unfolding," than by the terms "tablet," "wax," "mould," "chisel," and the like! It is very true there is a wide difference between the life of a tree and the life of a horse, and still more between the animal and the spiritual life of man; but here we find our closest resemblances to spiritual things, and our best educational metaphors.

Probably there are no teachers who think a pupil a sheet of paper, a ball of wax, or a marble slab; but there are plenty of teachers whose educational theories and methods are suggested by these familiar figures. Treating the mind-material (so to speak) as inert and passive in their hands, they are "writing" and "engraving" on it, "moulding" and "forming," "cutting" and "fashioning" it, to their hearts' content. Whereas, what all teachers should do is to treat mind-material as alive and growing, plastic indeed, but yet ascertaining its own native energy, capable of indefinite development. Teachers should be trainers and developers of youth, not artificers or even artists.

"NONE WILL MISS THEE."

Few will miss thee, friend, when thou
For a month in dust has lain,
Skillful hand and anxious brow.
Tongue of wisdom, busy brain—
All thou wert shall be forgot,
And thy place shall know thee not.

Shadows from the bending trees
O'er thy lowly head may pass;
Sighs from every wandering breeze
Stir the long, thick churchyard grass—
Wilt thou heed them? No; thy sleep
Shall be dreamless, calm and deep.

Some sweet bird may sit and sing
On the marble of thy tomb,
Soon to flit on joyous wing
From that place of death and gloom,
On some bough to warble clear;
But these songs thou shalt not hear.

Some kind voice may sing thy praise,
Passing near thy place of rest,
Fondly talk of "other days"—
But no throb within thy breast
Shall respond to words of praise,
Or old thoughts of "other days."

Since so fleeting is thy name,
Talent, beauty, power and wit,
It were well that without shame
Thou in God's great book wert writ,
There in golden words to be
Graven for eternity.

—*Chambers' Journal.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

AN EXPERIMENT IN RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION.

To the Editor of THE MONTHLY:

SIR,—The suggestion of the Education Department that "arrangements may be made by the trustees for closing the ordinary school work earlier than the usual hour, on certain days, so that time may be given for religious instruction," is a valuable one, and may be readily turned to good practical account. Experiment in one of our cities some years ago

proved the impossibility of accomplishing much in the way of religious instruction after school hours. The teachers considered themselves under no responsibility to remain when school work was done, and left accordingly, their example being followed by a portion of the scholars. Those who stopped behind, freed from the teacher's eye, fell into disorder. Discipline was impossible, and the scheme speedily collapsed. So long as school-children are school-children, similar experiments will