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TEACHING PENMANSHIP.

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In casting about for material, and in reflecting upon the subject of penmanship, I became impressed not only with the importance of the subject, but with my inability to do it justice. In observing the work done in the schoolroom and in the business college, in noting the opinions of teachers upon the same, and comparing both with my own experience, both in the schoolroom and the business college, I had for some time come to the conclusion that he who indites an article upon penmanship draws upon himself the fires of criticism from two opposite sides of opinion as to the best method of teaching penmanship; and I could well wish that the task had devolved upon some one more competent to deal with it. But it is the duty of the soldier to obey, and inasmuch as I have been selected to present this subject to you, I do so, not to display any superior talent or wisdom, but as a duty; and, while expecting your criticism, I also invite your sober judgment, in the hope that the discussion of the subject will present some practical suggestions that will result in more satisfactory work in the schoolroom.

There are, as stated, two opposite opinions as to the best method of teaching penmanship in our institutions of learning.