

smoothness of its working. But a system of education must be judged by its results.—*Week*.

#### ESSENTIALS OF A SCHOOL EDUCATION.

1. Every pupil should be taught to read intelligently the literature of the day—not merely to *know the words*, but to understand their meaning, and to give to each word its proper force and vocal significance.

2. To write neatly and legibly, in proper form, an ordinary business letter.

3. To spell correctly, not, of course, all the words in the dictionary, but at least such words as are of common use in commercial circles and in everyday conversation.

4. To make such calculations in arithmetic, rapidly and accurately, as might be required in the daily business of the merchant, the farmer, or the artisan.

5. To know the history of his country minutely, and such general historical facts as may be said to have exercised a wide influence in shaping the destinies of other nations.

6. To have such a knowledge of places as would localize his knowledge of the history, climate, productions and races of other countries.

7. To be so trained in the art of composition as to be able to express clearly, either on paper or orally, the knowledge he possesses.

8. To be able to delineate pictorially what cannot be as well expressed in words.

9. There is an education that is far above the foregoing particulars as heaven is above earth. A pupil may read and write well, spell and calculate correctly, know the history of his country, have a knowledge of places, be well trained in the art of expression, and draw artistically, but fail in life, because he has not the power of

doing his own thinking, and is not careful about his moral obligations. It is not essential that the child should know the three R's thoroughly, but it is essential that he be able to use the powers he has to the best advantage to himself and the people with whom he associates.—*School Journal* (N.Y.).

THE Modern Language teachers of Ontario have organized themselves into a society. The first meeting was held on December 29th and 30th, 1886. At the first session a constitution was adopted, and the following officers were elected:—Honorary President, Dr. D. Wilson; President, W. H. Van der Smissen, M.A.; Vice President, G. E. Shaw, B.A.; Sec. Treas., J. Squair, B.A.; Councillors, Messrs. W. H. Fraser, B.A., P. Toews, M.A., John Seath, B.A., R. D. Keys, B.A., F. H. Sykes, M.A., J. M. Hunter, M.A., LL.B., R. Balmer, B.A., and E. J. McIntyre, B.A. The following papers were read:—"The Status of Modern Language Study in Ontario," by G. E. Shaw, B.A.; "The Uses of Modern Language Study," by F. H. Sykes, B.A.; "French in University College," by J. Squair, B.A.; "Methods of Teaching Moderns to Beginners," by A. W. Wright, B.A.; Address by Dr. Wilson; "Examinations in Modern Languages," by R. Balmer, B.A.; and "English Grammar and Literature," by E. J. McIntyre, B.A. Resolutions were passed recommending changes in the Modern Language Curriculum of Toronto University, and also in the French and German papers in the examinations of the Education Department. The session was successful in every respect, and there seems to be no doubt that the Modern Language Association of Ontario will be able to do much for the advancement of learning in this Province.