

divisio, (see Quintilian I, 7, 20). Italian is very suggestive; and in all these cases *s* should be sharp.

t is always a pure dental, in *ratio* as in *ratis*, in *notia* as in *notus*, in *vitium* as in *vita*.

bs, *bt* should be sounded (and generally written) as *ps*, *pt*: *lapsus*, *aps*, *apsens*, *optulit*, *super*.

j, or consonant *i*, as *y* in *yard*.

As to consonant *u*, or *v*, we believe that its sound was as near as possible to that of the vowel *u*: i. e. like the *ou* of the French *oui*, not differing therefore much from the English *w*. But as there is great diversity of opinion on this point, we propose to leave it an open question, whether it shall be pronounced in this way, or as the English and Italian *v*.

y, *z*, *ch*, *ph*, *th* were brought into the language to represent Greek sounds: *z*, *ph*, *th* we propose should be sounded as at present: *ch* should never be pronounced as in our *character*: it would be better to give it a *k* sound succeeded by an *h* sound: but it must follow the fortunes of Greek *X*. *y*, or Greek *v*, had some middle sound between Latin *u* and *i*, perhaps resembling either French *u* or German *ü*; but *y* or *ÿ* came probably much nearer to *i* and *ÿ* than to *ü* or *ü*.

In our Latin pronunciation quantity is systematically neglected; attention to it seems essential in any reformed method: *ā* and *ā* should be distinguished in *matris* and *patris*, as in *mater* and *pater*. The ancients observed the natural length of vowels, when the syllable was also long by position: as in *Marcus*, *pastor*: Cicero tells us that every vowel when followed by *us* or *us* became long by nature: as in *inimicus*, *insanus*: *gn* seems to have had the same power over the preceding vowel. Often too an extruded consonant leaves a naturally short vowel long: *e* from *ex*: *es*, *est* from *edo*: *Sestius* (*Sestios*), but *Sextius* (*Sextios*). On the other hand the long vowel of many final syllables in time became short: and we can scarcely suppose that while the naturally long vowel in *amat*, *docet* was shortened, it always remained long in *amant*, *docent*: it seems certain also, whatever the reason may be, that the *e* was short in *docentis*, etc., as much as in *legentis*, *audientis*.

Following the traditions of the Italians, we fortunately keep the accent in most cases on the right syllable, though the loss of quantity has changed its nature. In a summary like this we cannot dwell on the exceptions.

In respect of elision we may see, by comparing Plautus and Terence with Ovid, how much the elaborate cultivation of the language has tended to a more distinct sounding of final syllables. We must not altogether pass over the elided vowel or the elided syllable which ends in *m*, except perhaps in the case of *ē* in common words, *que*, *neque*, and the like. How far two final *m* was mute, or nasal, it is not easy to determine. *est* 'is' seems often in pronunciation (and in writing) to have lost its *e* and become an enclitic *st* after a vowel or *m*: thus *tuo est*, *meum est* can end an Ovidian pentameter, *labori est* an Hexameter: we must therefore pronounce *tuost*, etc.

EDWIN PALMER,
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—(Educational Times.)

4. A GIFT TO SCIENCE.

Some time since Professor Agassiz in an address before the Legislature of Massachusetts called the attention of that body to the need and value of a summer school for the instruction of both teachers and students in natural history. He also suggested that, during the coming summer, a session should be held on the island of Nantucket. These remarks attracted the attention of Mr. John Anderson, a wealthy and well known tobacco merchant of this city, who with great munificence has donated an entire island for the purposes of the institution, supplementing his gift with a fund of \$50,000. The island, which bears the name of Penikese, is of about one hundred acres in extent and is situated in the Elizabeth group, at the entrance of Buzzard's Bay on the southern coast of Massachusetts. It has been largely improved, and contains several buildings valued at \$100,000, while the fertility of its soil is such as to render it possible to raise sufficient produce to pay all expenses of the school.

Professor Agassiz considers that the site is eminently suited for the purpose as affording ample opportunity for original investigation as well as instruction. The institution will be carried on throughout the year, in connection with the museum of Cambridge, and measures will be speedily taken to prepare the buildings for use.

5. A CHAT ABOUT WORK AND STUDY.

Many of the most notable results of human thought have come from the brains of men whose hands were busy with work.

Benjamin Franklin was obliged, as a journeyman printer, to be a very slow and careful reader of books. In this way he thoroughly

digested what he read; a slow but gradual development of power was the result. He was a working-man and a philosopher.

Robert Stephens and his son Henry were laborious printers and also learned men. The father wrote a thesaurus of the Latin language, and, De Thou says, "did more to immortalize the reign of Francis I. than all the monarch's own most famous exploits." The son wrote a thesaurus of the Greek language, the result of twelve years' hard application and study, which is well known among the learned.

Brindley, the famous engineer, worked as a carter, ploughman, and millwright till the age of manhood. His observations in this last trade, aided him in the construction of the Bridgewater Canal, with its tunnels, aqueducts and locks.

Bewick, the successful engraver on wood, and author of the "History of Quadrupeds," studied from early boyhood the habits of animals, and these observations caused his attempts at drawing, in which he afterward became proficient.

Watt's steam-engine, if not the unavoidable, was at least, a natural, result of his thoughts and pursuits.

Ferguson, while he watched his father's sheep, studied astronomy, and early in life had his thoughts busy with mathematical problems.

The life of Rittenhouse was very similar. He drew geometrical diagrams on his plough, and studied them as he turned the furrows.

Sir Humphry Davy was the son of a poor wood-carver, and himself an apprentice to an apothecary. We can hardly suppose that with his excessive vanity he would have added as much to science had he been a gentleman's son.

Columbus, while leading the life of a seaman, became the best astronomer and geographer of his age. It was under the same circumstances that Cook acquired his scientific and literary accomplishments.

Homer was a poor man, and wandered from place to place, observing the customs and countries he afterward described in his two poems, especially in the "Odyssey."

The success of the "Georgics," Vigil's most finished poem, is due to the writer's knowledge of rural life.

Milton was an accomplished man of the world, knew much of men and countries, and displayed an especial fondness for athletic sports.

It is difficult to believe that some of the finest specimens of the dramatic poetry of Ben Johnson were written during the leisure that comes to a labouring mason, and in the intervals of inactivity in a soldier's life.

Burns worked for years as a farmer, and from his intimate communion with nature came the inspiration of many of his sweetest songs.

Scott in all his writings shows the careful observer of men and things, and by his fidelity of description has given an added charm to history.

Dante wrote his "Inferno" after an engagement in civil strife in which he was defeated and proscribed.

Descartes while a soldier laid the foundation of his mathematical discoveries.

Cervantes, as a soldier, was detained five years a captive in Algiers. Giffard's early life was one of privation and hardship.

It was the persevering use of bodily exercise that overcame the natural defects in Demosthenes' voice, and in the bodily organization of Cicero. Plato led a life of vicissitudes, and for many years followed the example of his illustrious master Socrates. Pythagoras in early life became proficient in gymnastic exercises. When eighteen he received the prize for wrestling in the Olympic games. When Greece could afford him no more, he travelled, and in this way added vast and varied information to his already well-stored mind. He advocated and carried out views which it would be well for those interested in introducing this feature to imitate.

Many of the best historians describe the scenes in which they themselves were busy actors. Among many, these names may be mentioned: Herodotus, Xenophon, Polybius, Julius Caesar, Sir Walter Raleigh, Frederick the Great, De Thou and Clarendon.

It is a matter of great regret that the most reasonable and natural system of education should have been so long neglected.—*To-Day*.

THE RECENT EXAMINATION.

Specimens of Miss Anna Living's answers to questions in English Literature and History.

English Literature.

Q. 1. Give some account of the principal Latin Writers of the Norman times. What were the Romance tongues of France?

The principal Latin poet of the Norman times was Joseph of Exeter. His chief works are two epic poems—one on the Trojan War, noted for the purity of its Latin; the other, on the Third Crusade, exists now only in the manuscript form.