

# JOURNAL OF EDUCATION

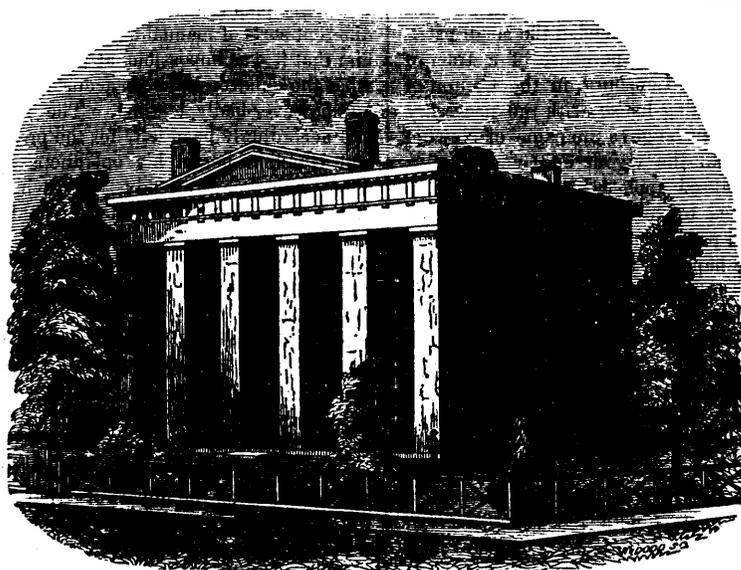
FOR

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PERSPECTIVE OF AN ACADEMY FOR BOYS AND GIRLS IN THE TOWN OF ROME, NEW YORK.

(For plan of interior arrangement, seating, &c., see page 68.)

## CONTENTS OF THIS NUMBER.

	PAGE.
I. Modern Systems of Education and their Founders—No. 2. Pestalozzi, . . .	65
II. SCHOOL ARCHITECTURE—Six illustrations, . . . . .	68
III. MISCELLANEOUS. 1. Love, Hope and Patience in Education. 2. A Beautiful Thought—(Poetry). 3. Moral Training of Pupils. 4. Opening of the Great Industrial Exhibition in London, May 1st, 1851. 5. Milton. 6. Statistics relating to the North West Passage, . . . . .	69
IV. EDITORIAL. 1. Objections to the Free School System in England. 2. Progress of Education in Nova Scotia. 3. Extracts from Local Superintendents' Reports—(concluded), . . . . .	72
V. Apportionment of the Legislative School Grant to the Townships, Cities, Towns, and Incorporated Villages in Upper Canada, for the year 1851—1. Circular to Clerks of Counties. 2. Circular to Clerks of Cities, Towns, and Villages, notifying the above, . . . . .	75
VI. EDUCATIONAL INTELLIGENCE. 1. Canada. 2. New Brunswick. 3. British and Foreign. 4. United States, . . . . .	77
VII. LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE, . . . . .	78
VIII. EDITORIAL AND OFFICIAL NOTICES. 2. Advertisements, . . . . .	80

## MODERN SYSTEMS OF EDUCATION AND THEIR FOUNDERS.

HENRY PESTALOZZI, OR PESTALUZ.—BORN 1745, DIED 1827, *ÆTAS* 82.

No. II.

Henry Pestalozzi was born at Zurich, in the German part of Switzerland, on the 12th of January, 1745. His family, we are informed by his biographer, Dr. Biber, belonged to the "*honoratiore*;" that is, to what we would call, in this country, to the gentry. His parents, however, were far from being opulent; and by the premature death of his father, a physician by profession, he was left an orphan at the early age of five years. Such a misfortune was doubly disadvantageous to young Pestalozzi. His remaining parent, however, nobly performed her part—nor were his father's family

and friends neglectful of their duty; advice and assistance were cheerfully given, and young Pestalozzi was prepared in due time for entering into a profession suitable to the rank held by his father. His early and constant companions were a fond and devoted mother, and an old, faithful, and attached female domestic, called Barbara. To these circumstances he owed, perhaps, much of that gentle, and almost feminine disposition, which distinguished him through life. His secluded education naturally led him into peculiarities of habit and character, which his youthful associates soon discovered, and not unfrequently ridiculed. But while they distinguished and addressed him by the name of *Harry Oddity*, they always found something about him which repressed their ridicule, and awakened in them sentiments of regard and respect.

His feminine turn of mind, and a want of dexterity and physical energy, unfitted him for joining in the active games, the eager pursuits, and the wild and boisterous sports in which schoolboys delight; nor had he any desire even for distinction in such exercises. But though he felt indifferent, and even disinclined to participate in their pursuits, yet he was often known to undertake cheerfully, and perform resolutely, what the boldest of them all would have feared to attempt. One instance of this may suffice. In the great earthquake of 1755, which was so severely felt in Switzerland, the house in which little Pestalozzi and his school-fellows were assembled shook so terribly, that the teachers ran out almost over the heads of their pupils. After their first terror had subsided, they ventured to return for their hats, books, and other articles, which they had abandoned in their flight; but the only one who had courage to re-enter the building for the purpose, was our youthful hero—*Harry Oddity*.

It does not appear that Pestalozzi was distinguished in his school-boy days by any decided mark of intellectual superiority; nor was the dull drudgery of a grammar school calculated to arouse his latent energies. His taste and his talents inclined him to philology, and the acquisition of languages; and these studies, combined with the