

pen and ink. After receiving the rudiments of education, the boy committed to memory Homer and other national poetry. Musical instruction was the second part of education. Technical excellence was not so much desired as the moral influence of the art, its exhilarating and inspiring effect at games, meals and in war. Stringed instruments were principally used, although wind instruments,

and instruments of percussion were well known. The last stage of education was given in the gymnasium. The harmonious development of every part of the body was thought to be of equal importance with the culture of the mind. The end was a perfect human form, capable of ease and grace of motion, and hardened against pain and the vices of laziness.

APPLICATION

Spake boldly, v. 8. On one occasion, during the famous wars of Marlborough, when Mons was besieged and the courage of the attacking

Never Lost
A Battle

party had almost been exhausted, the Duke of Argyle rushed into the midst of the faltering soldiers, and exclaimed, "You see brothers, I have no concealed armor. I am equally exposed with you. I ask no one to go where I refuse to venture. Remember you fight for the liberties of Europe and the glory of your nation." These stirring words and this brave example inspired the troops with new resolution. They rushed forward to the assault again, and the town was captured. In King Jesus we have a Leader who was exposed to the same temptations and opposition that confront us. He calls us to follow Him, and He never lost a battle. We have but to go boldly forward at His call, and, in spite of the sneers and opposition of the world, we shall surely win in the fight.

Were hardened, v. 9. "That was not quinine I took just now", remarked an indisposed lady who had just taken a powder.

"Sleeping
Sickness"

Her husband hurried to the drug store to find what it was.

The druggist threw up his hands in despair. It was an overdose of morphine. Two doctors were hastily summoned. They administered the most powerful antidotes and said, "Keep her awake for four hours, and she will be saved." The deathly stupor began to oppress her. "Please let me go to sleep", she pleaded; but her urgent words only drove them to more vigorous measures. They shook her, threw water in her face, dragged her roughly around the room. How glad were they, when the four hours were passed and the doctor pronounced her safe! Sin is just such a powerful opiate.

Many have mistaken it for pleasure, and have indulged in stupefying draughts. Their senses are becoming benumbed, their consciences deadened and their hearts hardened. Their condition is one of great peril. Their best friend is he who rouses them at any cost.

Evil spirits, v. 12. A man goes down to a little rivulet and tries to clean it; but his efforts are in vain. He cannot filter the

"Run the
Hog Out"

water clear. Then his friends shout to him, "Come up a little higher and run that hog out of the spring, and the water will clear itself." How often have men tried to improve their lives by dropping now this little habit, and now that; but, for all their efforts, they are no better than before. They have to climb up a little higher, and run some miserable hog of sin out of their hearts, before they can expect the streams of activity that issue from it to be sweet and wholesome. If we find that our resolutions are too easily broken and our vows for a better life too quickly forgotten, we may be sure that, somewhere in our hearts, lurks an evil spirit that must be driven out.

Fear fell upon them all (Rev. Ver.), v. 17. An operation was performed upon a blind man which restored his sight to him; but the immediate effect was quite

Through Fear
to Peace

unexpected. It produced a strange sensation of fear. Formerly he went about the town without a guide, tapping with his stick in full confidence. With the opening of his eyes he saw danger everywhere in the road, until he got used to his new power. So, the first impression of the gospel is often one of dread. The sinner begins to realize that he has to deal with a holy God. His conscience alarms him. He is filled with new apprehensions. Only