

communities will supply their own markets with the heavier and coarser goods ; it may be doubted whether even the reduction of the American tariff would make much difference in that respect. But for the finer articles—for everything into which cultivated taste enters, and which needs the stamp of cultivated taste to commend it—the new country will long look to the old.

While provision is made in your course for the mind, and for the whole mind, you do not overlook the body. The laws of health are to be taught, and power is given to make arrangements for teaching swimming and gymnastics. Perhaps we are apt to be rather sanguine in estimating the probable effects of a mere knowledge of the laws of health. Dives knows very well that high living is bad for his gout, yet Dives lives high. A mother knows very well that the sweetmeats for which her darling cries will disagree with it, and yet she gives it the sweetmeats. We have even heard of medical men very careful of the diet of their patients, but very careless about their own. Want of cleanliness and of sanitary precautions generally, springs quite as often from neglect as from ignorance. Still, a distinct and scientific perception of consequences may not be without effect. More certain is the effect of gymnastics, or, better than gymnastics, out-of-door sports, in producing health to boys. Moderate exercises of this kind will also be the best antidote to the insane athleticism which of late years has taken so strange a hold upon the nation. Formerly the body was often neglected, and the mind suffered from the weakness of its yoke-fellow. Now there is a violent rebound, and it seems to be thought the highest fruit of a long and expensive education to row nearly as well as a waterman, and to run half as fast as a horse. Time

and money are wasted on the cultivation of powers by which no man can make his bread, and which in a few years come to nothing ; a false standard of excellence is set up in our places of education ; and after all, according to the best authorities, permanent health is not secured.

These, however, are general remarks on education, a momentous, but a well-worn theme. There is a clause in your deed of foundation which claims special notice, because it is not only important but peculiar. The clause to which I refer is that excluding sectarian teaching and substituting for theology compensatory instruction of another kind. It runs thus :—“The teachers shall not endeavour to inculcate or controvert the doctrines of any sectarian religious creed, but shall strive to instil into the minds of the scholars such views and principles as will improve their habits, elevate their moral tone, and give them a true appreciation of those mutual obligations in all human relations, on which the welfare of mankind is based ; it being intended that the duty of providing distinctively theological instruction shall be left to the parents or guardians.” The mention of the religious question in connection with education at once reminds us of the age in which we live. It is an age surpassing in momentous change any previous period of history—we might almost say all previous history put together, at least since the coming of Christ. In political revolutions, in military conflicts of the most tremendous kind the last half-century has abounded ; but what are even these compared with the revolution which appears to be taking place in the fundamental beliefs of man ? In the age of the Reformation the political and social convulsions, the wars and insurrections were the consequences and the outward manifestations of the deeper movement which