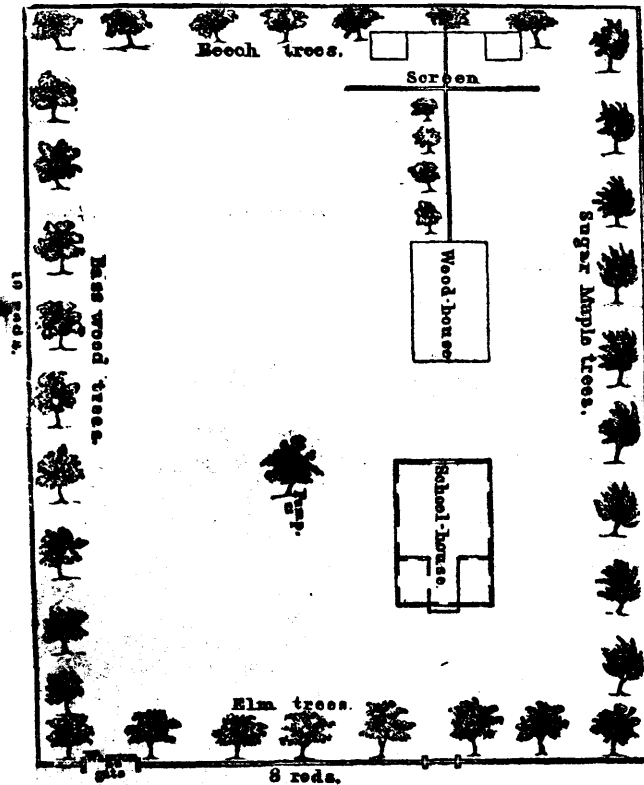


In respect to one part of it we remark, that we think the fence or partition which separates the one part of the grounds from the other, ought to extend from the school-house to the wood-house, as well as from the latter to the rear of the premises.

(Fig. 2.)



Highway.

Plan of Grounds, &c.

We now proceed to make some additional remarks on the interior construction and arrangements of the School-house.

1. **SIZE.**—We observed last month, that each School-house should be sufficiently large to allow every pupil, 1. to sit comfortably at his desk; 2. to leave it without disturbing any one else; 3. to see explanations on his lessons, and to recite, without being incommoded or incommoding others; 4. To breathe a wholesome atmosphere. The arrangements necessary for the accomplishment of the first three of these objects, have been largely explained and illustrated in previous numbers of this journal; and for the accomplishment of the last, we have also stated and shown at large, that at least 150 cubic feet of air should be allowed for every occupant. Nevertheless a few further observations may not be useless.

2. **POSITION.**—It is very desirable that the front of the School-house be towards the south; that the north end be occupied by the master's desk; that this end be a dead wall; that the desks be so placed that pupils, as they sit at them, will look towards the north. Some of the advantages of this arrangement are, that the pupils will obtain more correct ideas upon the elements of geography, as all maps suppose the reader to be looking northward; that the north wall, having no windows, will exclude the severest cold of winter; that the pupils will look towards a dead wall, and thus avoid the great evil of facing a glare of light—or, if a window or two be allowed in the north wall, the light coming from that quarter is less vivid, and therefore less dangerous, than that which comes from any other; lastly, that the door being in the south end, will open towards the winds which prevail in summer, and from the cold winds of winter. If from necessity, the house must front northward, the master's desk

should be still in the north end of the room, and the pupils, when seated, look in that direction.

3. **DESKS AND SEATS.**—On the inconvenience of long seats for pupils we have frequently spoken; as also on the impropriety of having all the desks the same height. The desks and seats for pupils should be of different dimensions. We think it most desirable for two to sit together; and each desk for two may be $3\frac{1}{2}$ or 4 feet long. The younger pupils being placed nearest the master's desk, the front ranges of desks, may be 13 inches wide, the next 14, the next 15, and the most remote 16 inches, with the height, respectively, of 24, 25, 26, and 27 inches. The seats should vary in like manner—those of the smallest class, should be 10 inches wide, the next $10\frac{1}{2}$, the third 11, the fourth or largest class $11\frac{1}{2}$ or 12 inches wide; and being, in height, 13, 14, 15, and 16 inches respectively. All the edges and corners should be carefully rounded.

4. **PLATFORM AND SHELVES.**—The master's platform may be raised about eight inches: and the end of the room occupied by him should be filled with shelves for a library and for philosophical apparatus and any collections of natural curiosities (such as rocks, minerals, plants, shells, &c.,) which may be made in the neighbourhood or obtained from abroad. The books, apparatus, and collections should be concealed and protected by doors, which may be made perfectly plain and without panels, so as to be painted black, and serve as blackboards. They may be conveniently divided by pilasters into three portions—the middle one for books, the others for apparatus and collections. On one of the pilasters may be a clock; on the other a barometer and thermometer; on shelves in the corners, the globes; and over the library, in the centre, may be the study card. One of the pilasters may form part of the ventilating tube. The space for the platform, shelves, &c., between the front range of desks and the north wall, should be from seven to ten or twelve feet, according to the size of the room and the number of pupils contemplated. The sides and front of this space should be furnished with seats, ten or eleven inches wide, for very young pupils when the school is large, and sometimes for classes reciting. By means of a large movable blackboard, this space may be in case of need, divided into two, so that two classes may recite at a time.

5. **ENTRY, &c.**—The entry should be lighted by a window, and furnished with hooks or pins for the accommodation of hats, bonnets, and cloaks; and a wood-closet, large enough to contain one or two cords of wood. By making the ceiling of the entry and wood-closet only seven feet high, two commodious rooms for recitation may be formed above them, lighted from the windows over the front door, and accessible by stairs from within the school-room.

6. **LIGHT.**—The windows should be on the east and west sides of the room, and on the right and left of the pupils. Windows on the north admit too much cold in winter, and on the south too intense a light at the hour when it is greatest. The eye is often materially and permanently injured by being directly exposed to strong light; and if the light come from behind, the head and body of the pupil interposed, throw the book into their shadow. The windows should be set high enough to give an uninterrupted light, and prevent pupils sitting at their desks from seeing persons or objects on the ground without. The windows should be furnished with blinds or curtains, and should be made to open from the top as well as from the bottom; so that in the summer season when the ventilator will not act, they may supply its place.

7. **WARMING.**—There are two common modes of warming school-houses in this country, —by means of open fire-places and stove. The former is preferable with reference to health, and by a little pains in the construction, may almost equal the stove in economy of fuel—furnishing the room at the same time with an ample supply of fresh, warm air from abroad. In a suitable position, near the door,