

INTRODUCTION.

public schools are not what they should be, is evident from an inspection of the examination papers of candidates for admission to High Schools. But many who readily acquiesce in the need, do not see clearly the means to be employed. We would simply suggest that, if the primary instruction be a thorough exposition of correct principles, the higher grades will have something solid to build upon. Let the very first effort be directed to the primary departments. Here is where cramped movement and vicious practice originate, and here is where the educating force should begin. To allow pupils to start wrong, and work under a bad system during the most impressionable school period, and afterward to devote time and labor to remedy this false education, does not smooth the way of the pupil, lighten the task of the teacher, nor produce satisfactory results.

There will be great improvement in the results obtained, in schools where the plan of BEATTY'S SYSTEM OF PRACTICAL PENMANSHIP is carried out, in accordance with the grading of the Copy-books and the directions of this little Hand-book.

The use of copy books with lithographed copies at the head of the page has very great advantages. It economizes the time of the teacher; presents correct models for imitation; prevents change of hand should the teacher be changed; and gives a better system, the result of a larger and more varied experience than is possible to an individual.