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The development of the system of Normal Schools in the United States of America has brought to the public notice several educators of remarkable powers. This work of foundation and nurture demands those peculiar characteristics with which few are gifted. Among the best known workers in this department of education is Dr. James H. Hoose, the present Principal of the State Normal and Training School in Cortland, New York. He was born in Schoharie County, New York, in 1835, but early removed to Oswego County, where he received his early education and collegiate preparatory training. He graduated in Genesee College, Lima, N.Y., in 1861. He received the degree of Doctor of Philosophy from Syracuse University, of which institution he is a trustee.

Dr. Hoose has been a teacher from the age of eighteen. At this early age he manifested those qualities of mind and heart which thoroughly fit the man for a successful educator. He showed a most ardent enthusiasm in holding Institutes, and in studying and expounding those principles which must underlie all correct school government. Using all diligence to place himself in the way of the best possible advantages for the study and observation of school methods, his superiority became so marked that he early acted as instructor at County Institutes, and in 1866 he was employed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction, Hon. Victor M. Rice, to conduct Teachers' Institutes in various Counties of the State. His good fortune in enjoying the invigorating and exact training of those rare educators, Jno. R. French, LL.D., and James L. Alverson, LL.D., was most fully appreciated and carefully improved. To the association with these men was he largely indebted for that power of lucid and thorough exposition which made him so valuable a helper to the younger members of the profession.

While Dr. Hoose has honorably filled various positions in Academies and Seminaries, his tastes and sympathies have ever been more heartily enlisted in the public school system of the State, and his best energies have been directed to the cause of training teachers for these public positions. As Professor of Theory and Practice of Teaching, and of English Language and Literature, in the State Normal School at Brockport, N.Y., he showed that rare ability for organization and government, as well as that untiring energy of purpose, which resulted in his election to the

Principalship of the State Normal School at Cortland, N.Y., at the time of its foundation, in 1869. Under his able superintendency this school has been placed in the very front rank of similar institutions in the United States. He has also been thoroughly identified with the general educational interests of the State, and has been a most active force in all movements for the unification of the school system. In 1871 he was elected President of the New York State Teachers' Association, a position which he filled with great acceptance to that highly influential body. In 1877 he travelled in Europe, where he studied especially the school systems of England and Scotland—embodying the results in "Notes on the Public School System of England and Scotland."

For several years past Dr. Hoose has been very earnest in efforts

to raise the public school management of his native State out of the complications of partizan politics, and place it on a solid foundation of principles. As Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence appointed by the "New York State Association of School Commissioners and Superintendents," in 1879, he has made an able and exhaustive report on this subject, in which he strongly advocates the unification of the entire public school system, under the control of one central Board, which should be as far as possible removed from factitious and partizan influences. Largely through his influence was organized, in 1879, the "International Society for Investigating and Promoting the Science of Teaching," of which he is now President. He has written a large number of pamphlets and addresses on educational topics, and is the author of "Studies in Articulation" and "On the Province of Methods of Teaching."

These treatises have been widely and favorably known among the profession.

Dr. Hoose is a man of one aim. While he is in hearty sympathy with questions of current interest in Church and State, and is well informed on many subjects, his one work is that of an educator, and of a student of educational philosophy. He strongly believes that teaching should be elevated to the dignity of a profession. The energies of his nature and the activities of his life are directed towards the realization of this end. His absorbing ambition seems to be to make the Normal School, of which he is Principal, an abiding blessing to the commonwealth. He is a man of genial nature, but of strong and deep convictions. His immense will power is steadied by a sound judgment, and controlled by a healthy conscience and by firm Christian principle. He is already widely known as a highly successful educator and author, and seems destined to take a foremost rank among the members of his profession.

