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TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

THE necessity of adopting a system of technical education in our public schools, particularly for the industrial masses, is now becoming widely recognized, and a movement only requires to be set on foot by the manufacturing interests of the Dominion to induce our Boards of Education to adopt measures for the formation of classes, in all schools, for the acquirement of technical education; and it is to be hoped that the day is not far distant when the Government will see the necessity of

establishing two or more Technical Universities, with ample funds for affording a complete education for architects, engineers—civil and mechanical—and artisans generally. Thoughtful men are beginning to be convinced that in order to develop the resources of our country, much more attention must be given in all of our schools to the technical education of those who are likely to be engaged in manufactures, who, having put their hands to the work, will carry it on in the manner that might be expected, and that the time has come to institute a better order of things and to encourage the exhibition of skill and invention in handicraft. We should have, at least, two Technical Universities, affiliated with technical classes in all our public schools, in which special branches of industry should be taught. The importance of such universities and schools to the rising generation of artisans and mechanics who may wish to avail themselves of the theory and practice therein taught and exemplified, cannot be over estimated, not only for the advantage of themselves, but for the country they live in. There can be no doubt but that technical education should begin at school, and at an early age, at least so much of it as will enable the pupils to display a faculty or a taste for certain handicraft. The more intelligent would naturally find their way to the Technical University, and thence to the workshops, ultimately to become master-minds in the industries of the country. It is a matter that cannot be too soon taken in hand, so that

the whole industrial population may be educated to a higher technical point than at present. We would then have more skilful workers, and their skill would be guided by greater intelligence.

In a former article that appeared in this Magazine, we strongly advocated the formation of workshops in our largest cities, so that the teaching received of those natural sciences which bear upon practice, should be exemplified in workshops, which is a better school for acquiring skill in handicraft than any laboratory. Of what value would be the study of anatomy and physics to the physician without practice in the dissecting-room and the walking of students through the hospitals?—And so with technical education—however high the standard of knowledge obtained in a Technical University, the practice in the field and in the workshop is absolutely necessary, and actual practice as well as theory should, as far as possible, be introduced into the curriculum of practical training.

Although great perfection has been arrived at in Great Britain in arts, science and manufactures, the people are by no means satisfied to remain at their present standard of excellence. She knows full well the necessity of keeping that standard always at the highest point, if she would maintain her foremost place among the nations of the world.

The trade guilds of the city of London are about to take the initiative for a great movement in this direction, and contemplate expending a portion of their large revenues to the advancement of technical education to the people and to the greater progress of those industries, whence centuries ago they derived their origin. The Turners' Company has already set the example to others, which, though tardily followed, is leading to good results. The Drapers and Cloth-workers' Company have resolved to establish a Technical University with a promise of \$10,000 per annum for the assistance of each, with such further assistance as may be needed. Other companies, such as the Goldsmiths, the Ironmongers, the Merchant Tailors, the Mercers, and the Dyers, have given their adhesion to the scheme, and it is supposed that the city guilds will, one and all, unite in furtherance of this good object without considering too critically the advantages to be gained by their respective trades. The Society of Arts has fairly started the desire for technical education