

IN CHARACTER FORMING.

Let each pupil learn that he must not depend upon his neighbour for pen, pencil, or brains. The boy who is taught to have a pride in keeping his tools in good working order and always on hand is learning a most valuable lesson. The boy who is training himself to master the difficult

exercises is developing a clear grit that will help him to conquer the harder problems of real life. Every manly boy who has been trained aright enjoys the conquest of tough tasks. We take away the chief pleasure of school life when we make things easy and tell too much. We then rob the boy of the sense of achievement and the joy of discovery.

NOTES FOR TEACHERS.

STAMPS.—From two to three tons of stamps are despatched daily from Somerset House; at certain seasons, such as Christmas and other exceptionally busy periods of the year, the weight removed in a single day by the post-office vans reaches as much as eight tons. This enormous quantity of stamps is daily distributed throughout the area of the United Kingdom without the loss of a single penny stamp.

THE Trustees of Columbia New York have given their sanction to the proposed Barnard College for women, which is to be an annex to Columbia, Barnard College is to have the same professors and instructors as Columbia, and there its connection begins and ends. The Trustees of the proposed institution will raise the funds to pay all their expenses, and they are given four years in which to show what they can do. There seems to be little doubt of their signal success.

DR. J. G. FITCH, London: The school of the future must do more than it has done hitherto in the direction of mental development—must furnish better training for the hand and for the senses; must do more for the cultivation of taste, and the love of the

beautiful; must kindle in children a stronger appetite for reading and personal cultivation, and at the same time, bring them into a closer contact with the facts of life, and with the world of realities as well as the world of books.

PROGRESS OF EDUCATION IN INDIA.—The Educational Report for 1887-88 shows a total expenditure of Rs. 26,191,280. Of the total population of school-going age 11·8 per cent. actually attended school, as compared with 10·7 the preceding year. On March 31, 1887, 3,343,544 pupils were on the rolls of the different schools to which the statistics relate, and on the same date in 1887-88 the number had risen to 3,460,844. There were 2,345,794 Hindoos, as compared with 2,303,812 in 1886-87; 804,485 Mohammedans (75,441); 23,160 Europeans and Eurasians (23,185); 74,498 native Christians (60,611); and 203,121 of other classes, including aborigines (192,314). The most noticeable feature, says the *Times* correspondent, is the sustained increase among the Mohammedan pupils, distributed over every stage of education, and chiefly noticeable in the private schools, which were attended by 240,472 pupils, as compared with 19,5415 pupils in 1886-87.