

Pestalozzi Memorials in Zurich.

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Though it is often only too true that "a prophet is not without honour save in his own country," it is always gratifying to see a later generation which has come to appreciate the prophet's message, accord him the honour that is his due. A fine opportunity for observing such appreciation is to be seen at Zurich, the birthplace of Pestalozzi.

Here in a little park and flower garden, in the heart of the city, stands a noble monument to the great prophet of childhood. It represents him with a face full of kindness, lending protection and guidance to a boy who is looking up to him for help. Not far away on the bank of the Limmat is to be found the "Pestalozzionum" or Pestalozzi museum and school exhibit, of which Zurich is justly proud. In this quaint, old building is to be found much interesting material relating to Pestalozzi's life and work. Autograph letters, original MSS., various pictures of Pestalozzi, and of his different schools, bound volumes of the *Pestalozziblatter*, a magazine containing much historical material, and devoted to the propagating of the ideas for which Pestalozzi stood, are among the things to be seen. In adjoining rooms is an exhibit of school materials, which represents in concrete form the outcome of Pestalozzi's idea of *anschanung* or personal observation. Here are maps in outline, in colour and in relief, models of land and water forms, collections of animals, plants and minerals, food products of various countries, varieties of native woods, hundreds of classified pictures, suitable for school use in various subjects, lantern slides, etc. These are all available in the schools of Zurich, and in fact throughout Switzerland, and I am told are much used.

The "Pestalozzionum" contains also a pedagogical library and reading-room for the teachers of Zurich and surrounding towns. In the reading-room are over one hundred educational journals, mainly in German and French, but in other languages also, including English. I was specially pleased to see on shelves the well-known *Educational Review* (not of St. John, I regret to say), *Pedagogical Seminary* and *Kindergarten Magazine*.

But the finest tribute, and the one Pestalozzi himself would, no doubt, most appreciate are the excellent schools from Kindergarten to "Polytechnicum" and University, that are to be found in his native

city—schools in which the spirit of the great lover of childhood is manifested, and where work is carried on on lines anticipated by him but far surpassing in equipment and in organization his fondest dreams. Zurich, September 28.

The Friends of the Farmer.

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Everybody knows what a friend is. Is not a friend one who helps in time of need? And is not a good friend a very valuable possession?

Now, the farmer does not raise his crops entirely by his own labour, nor the help of the plough and harrow. Nature has provided many ways to assist him, though sometimes he does not feel very thankful for them, and thinks the birds, etc., are only harmful to him when they scratch up seeds which he has planted, or do something else which is not just right. But if he would only reason it out, he would see that the following do more good than injury.

Birds.

In spring the birds, especially the apple birds (cedar birds) go among the apple trees and destroy tiny moths which are in the blossoms. The moths lay eggs in the flower, which hatch out to worms when the apple is full grown. These eat their way out, in this way ruining bushels of fruit.

You have often seen the birds hopping along the ground in a grain field or garden, and perhaps you said the birds were eating seeds. This is a mistake, for the birds are really eating myriads of grubs and insects which would eat the roots and destroy the plants.

It is true there are some birds which are not much good to the farmer, as the English sparrow and crow, but the majority of birds do a great deal of good, and it is a great mistake and loss to kill one of them.

If all the birds were killed off in the country, how many plants would be living in two years? Not very many, I think. And what could we do without the birds? Would it not be quite desolate and dreary? They are such happy, cheerful, friendly little creatures.

Toads.

Many people despise toads, and ask "what good are they?" They are of great value, for they, too, destroy many insects which would ruin the plants.