

COMMENTS.

No school is a good school that educates the children away from work, says a recent issue of a Pennsylvania School Journal. No boy should be taught that it is better or more respectable, to be a lawyer than to be a farmer. A good carpenter or blacksmith is as good and useful and respectable as a good doctor, and infinitely better than a poor one. It is just as honorable to shoe a horse as it is to edit a paper. The banker is no whit better than the mechanic. Any honest calling is worthy the best efforts of an honest man. The humblest, most lowly calling can be dignified by following it worthily and efficiently. Every good school will help the children to see, understand, and appreciate this fact. The school that does not do this much is not doing the most or the best for the children.

The little kingdom of Holland has started on a career of conquest (says the Leisure Hour), but in a manner which every other nation must approve. Holland has made up its mind to dry up the Zuider Zee, and add 2,500,000 acres of fertile land to her territory. Proposals for shutting out the sea from this inland bay have engaged the attention of Dutch engineers since 1849, but they all proved impracticable, and the expense too great. But lately the States-General have sanctioned a more modest plan which will be carried out and perfected within the next twenty years, and will materially alter the appearance of Holland on the map.

A broad causeway will be built from the northern Dutch coast and from the island of Wieringen to the opposite Frisian mainland at Piaam. There will be two great sluices, one at Piaam, and the other at Wieringen, and through these sluices the connection with the sea will be maintained. It is proposed for the present to dry four extensive areas, two in the west, one south, and one east. The beginning will be made with the two western areas, called respectively the Wieringen and Hoerner Polder. "polder" being the Dutch name for territory reclaimed from the sea. The government believe that they will be able to settle forty villages on this area, each village with 100 houses, and on the two areas south and west, eighty villages. The entire cost of the work is estimated at 57,000,000 gulden (4,800,000l.) for the dykes and causeways and an additional 38,000,000 (3,200,000l.) for drainage works. In nine years the dykes are to be finished. In addition to this large extension of her territory Holland will have the advantage of improved railway communication, as the causeways shutting in the sea from Wieringen to Piaam will be broad enough to run a railway across it.

American Misinformation.

We are often amused at the lack of the Englishman's knowledge of things in America; but for real, solid, downright ignorance of what the world—outside the boundaries