

they should be, either directly, or by being incorporated in the reading-books, either in the form of tales, or other striking illustrations of their application. We should at least aim at a high ideal in this respect, seeing that the mental powers are guided and directed by the moral ones. We see here the scope for good teachers. We should be the living example of justice, benevolence, sympathy, order and industry, and I cannot do better than conclude with the words of Prof. Tyndall regarding the teaching profession:—

“If there be one profession in England of paramount importance, I believe it to be that of the schoolmaster; and if there be a position where incompetence and ignorance do most

serious mischief by lowering the moral tone and exciting cunning and contempt where reverence and noble truthfulness ought to be the feelings evoked, it is that of a governor of a school. When a man of enlarged heart and mind comes among boys—when he allows his being to stream through them, and observes the operation of his own character evidenced in the elevation of theirs, it would be idle to talk of the position of such a man being honorable. The man is a blessing to himself and all around him. Such men, I believe, are to be found in the country, and it behoves those who busy themselves with the mechanics of education at the present day to find them out.”—*Australasian Schoolmaster*.

ALASKA.

FRANCES M. FERRY.

A REMOTE, frozen, inhospitable wilderness, holding foreign intruders at bay with long, dreary winters and inaccessible mountains—repelling even the native people with its austerity of climate and relief—Alaska remains to-day virtually an uninhabited and unexplored waste, though peculiarly endowed with riches that have long lured the hardy and venturesome to seek fortune within its bounds.

Alaska is divided by nature into three parts: Aleutian Alaska, consisting of the narrow peninsula and volcanic islands south of the Behring sea, whose eruptions winter before last made the whole sea seem ablaze and excited considerable comment, is inhabited by a few piscatory Indians known as the Aleuts. Northern Alaska, the vast territory north of the mountains, embracing that portion of the Yukon basin west of the 141st

meridian, is the Alaska of ice and snow and Esquimaux; its seas abound in whales and seals, its rivers in salmon and gold. Southern Alaska, which includes the southern and western slopes of the great mountain range whose ridge forms the boundary between British Columbia and Alaska, and mountain ranges separated from the mainland and from each other by deep sea-claimed valleys, has now nearly lost its identity as the home of the Hiada Indians, the land of totem-poles, the theatre of glaciers, the site of rich gold fields, and the background of Sitka, and is for the present the key to the Klondike. In this role it has gained more notoriety than in all others combined, and it is safe to say that thousands who never heard of Muir glacier, the Hiada Indians, Douglas Island, or the Greek church of Sitka, are now familiar with Juneau, Dyea, and Chilkoot pass,