

all the ideas in his mind have their corresponding words in his memory.

Now, if he turn the faculties of his mind to a new subject,—a subject entirely different from anything which has before occupied his attention,—it is as certain that he will meet with new words as that he will meet with new ideas; and, simplify as much as we may, it is not easy to perceive how he is to make himself master of any new subject through his old stock of words. Thus, in order to get new ideas, you *must* get new words: and in the proportion that you master their meaning will be your knowledge of the subject to which you turn your attention.

To profit by literature, then, you must learn its language. All that has been done, or can or will be done, in the simplifying processes, will never do away with that necessity. Remember that the language you have to learn is your mother-tongue; that the words whose signification puzzles you are on the lips of your fellow-countrymen every day and all day long; that you have a living dictionary in your teacher or parent, who will help you; that you can buy a Webster's pocket dictionary for a quarter of a dollar; and remember, too, that every step you advance will render the next step easier.

Take advice, if it suits your case.—Select a volume of average reading.—Begin the perusal of it with a determination to understand the whole before you have done with it. Do your best with every sentence, using your dictionary with discretion. A sentence which may not be plain enough on the first reading may be so on the second or third. By this means you will learn the meaning of thousands of words which you did not know before.

The language of literature once acquired, the world of literature is before you. It is a boundless field of delightful inquiry, if you make the right use of it. We will not promise that it shall lift you to worldly prosperity, but it shall build you up to a nobler state of being, and make you a credit and an ornament to any position you may be called on to fill.

Sargent's School Monthly.

READING TO PUPILS.

It is an excellent practice to select, occasionally, a passage or paragraph,

full of instruction on some practical subject, to be read by the teacher to the pupils of a school, or, it may be, to an older class, according to its nature and application. In a school where there may be a class of lads looking forward to business, the following selection may be read with advantage, to be followed by judicious remarks from the teacher, drawing a parallel between the performance of duties in the school-room and in the employment of the merchant.

Few boys will fail of receiving a stimulus from counsels so tersely presented as these. The lad who cannot be made to perceive and feel that the spirit, manner, and tact which business will demand of him hereafter must begin to be exhibited in the school-room, may be set down as an unpromising candidate for success in the great school of life.

The passage is taken from that valuable publication, *Hunt's Merchant's Magazine*.

COUNSEL TO MERCHANT'S CLERKS.

Make yourself indispensable to your employers; that is the golden path to success. Be so industrious, so prompt, so careful, that if you are absent one half hour out of the usual time you will be missed, and he in whose employ you are shall say—"I did not dream George was so useful." Make your employer your friend, by performing with minuteness whatever task he sets before you; and above all, be not too nice to lend a hand to dirty work, no matter how repugnant; your business in after years depends upon how you deport yourself now. If you are really good for anything, you are good for a great deal. Be energetic; put your manners into your business; look as well as act with alacrity; appear to feel an interest; make your master's success your own, if you have an honest one. Let your eye light up at his request, and your feet be nimble; there are some who look so dull and heavy, and go with so slow and heavy a pace, that it is irksome to ask them what it is your right to demand of them; be not like these.

Be the arch upon which your employer may rest with safety; let him feel that he may entrust with you uncounted gold.

If you do an errand lightly, you begin to lose his confidence; if you forget twice