

used in place of the iron and steel, the uses for which are constantly extending in our own day. It is our duty to defer as long as possible the necessity for solving these problems by the race. We are not called upon to stop using these things for fear of starvation to those who will live after us, but to stop the reckless, wanton waste that is going on all around. The world is an estate in which its

occupants at any time have but a life interest, and no right to use it so carelessly as to needlessly lessen its value to their successors. The old story that we owe nothing to posterity because it has never done anything for us is a mere sophistry unworthy of a rational being, since it is only to posterity that we can hope to pay the debt we owe our ancestors. —*Chicago Tribune.*

EDUCATIONAL WASTE.

EXAMPLES would be trite of the useful improvements in our generation which have utilized in the manufacturing world materials that formerly went to waste. And in the process of training up intelligent, well-educated citizens we have succeeded in making many economies of time and power by improved methods, the result of deeper insight into the nature of the forces at our command. The process of developing a highly civilized human being out of the crude material furnished by ordinary child-nature takes from ten to twenty years in the various stages of "manufacture" and involves the use of a considerable amount of capital. But there is no other branch of industry by which capital can be more certainly or more rapidly multiplied, looking at the question of popular education merely from the standpoint of the political economist. The standard authorities are unanimous in declaring that an educated man by his increased intelligence and trained will power can do more work and with better effect than an illiterate man, even when education has not proceeded beyond the very first stages and has merely enabled the recipient to read and write his own language. Every other valuable asset that can

be produced either by skill of the hand, or by power of thought in the skilful application of capital, must ultimately depend on the physical energy, trained ability, and moral force that belong to the citizens of the country.

This is merely one way of stating an admitted fact—that the training and educating of the physical, mental, and moral powers of the incoming generation is the most important interest in any state, and that the total neglect of it for one generation would mean nothing less than ruin to the nation making the experiment. To argue such a self-evident proposition nowadays would be indeed superfluous labour.

But if the least avoidance of waste is of supreme importance in the manufacture of iron and cotton and chemicals, how valuable must be the least economy in the production of effective citizens by whom all the other wealth of the nation is elaborated. How much more valuable is the "raw material," how much more delicate are the forces brought into play, how much more enduring is the final product! How wickedly extravagant must be any waste of power through misapplication of energy and time in the unreturning hours of youth