

# EDUCATIONALIST.

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[AFTER THREE MONTHS, ONE DOLLAR

VOLUME I.

BRIGHTON, CANADA WEST, JULY 1, 1861.

NUMBER 20

## Poet's Corner.

### LINGER NOT LONG.

Linger not long! Home is not home without thee,  
Its dearest looks only make me mourn;—  
Oh, let its memory, like a chain about thee,  
Gently compel, and hasten thy return.  
Linger not long!

Linger not long! Though crowds should woo thy staying  
Re-think thee—can the mirth of friends,  
Though dear,  
Compensate for the grief thy long delaying  
Costs the poor heart that sighs to have thee here?  
Linger not long!

Linger not long! How shall I watch thy coming,  
As evening shadows stretch o'er moor and fell;  
When the wild bee hath ceased her weary humming,  
And silence hangs on all things like a spell.  
Linger not long!

How shall I watch for thee when fears grow stronger—  
As night grows dark and darker on the hill!  
How shall I weep when I can watch no longer—  
Oh, art thou absent, art thou absent still?  
Linger not long!

Yet I should not, though the eye that sees me  
Gazeth through tears that make its splendor dull;  
For, Oh, I sometimes fear, when thou art with me,  
My cup of happiness is all too full!  
Linger not long!

Haste—haste thee home unto thy mountain dwelling,  
Haste, as a bird, unto its peaceful nest!  
Haste, as a skiff, when tempests wild are swelling,  
Fies to its haven of securest rest!  
Linger not long!

### ENGLISH GIRLS.

English children must have abundance of fresh, out-door air every day, if possible and an important part of the duty of the nurse-maid is to take the children out several hours every fine day, including the infant. One of the most beautiful pictures in the London parks, and, indeed, everywhere all over England, is the innumerable nurse-maids, themselves radiant with health, with their still more radiant children. Thus the English girl is early trained to a habit and love of walking that she never loses, and in this way secures round limbs, and expanded chest, and ruddy countenance while

still a child. It is hardly necessary to say that the shoes of English children have thick soles, and that their clothing throughout is very carefully adapted to the season and the weather.

I am afraid that American mothers will laugh when I say the mothers of England are very particular not to allow their children, before they are old enough to walk, to sit much on a carpet, as it is a posture unfavourable to erectness and fullness of figure. They are therefore taught, with especial pains, to roll themselves on the carpet, and to lie on the stomach, all of which has a direct tendency to secure a perpendicular spinal column and a broad, full chest.

It is a beautiful feature of English families that the children, instead of being pushed into a precocious maturity of dress, manner and habits, are *children* all along; their parents love to have it so—simple, free, joyous, playing, laughing, romping all they can. It is not the least of the advantages of this, that when womanhood comes, as come it will in spite of everything, it sets easily and gracefully upon them.

English children do not go to fashionable parties, or keep late hours. It is a special study to provide for them abundance of *healthy* sports, and above all to make home radiant with cheerfulness through the day; and when night comes, the young misses, instead of staying up and being called *ladies*, are called *girls*, and sent to bed.—*Happy Home.*

READING.—There is a refined use which reading might be put to—namely, to counteract the particular evils and temptations of our callings, the original imperfections of our character, and the tendencies of our age, or of our own time of life. Those, for instance, who are engaged in dull, crabbed work all day, of a kind which is always exercising the logical faculty and demanding minute—not to say vexatious—criticism, would, during their leisure, do wisely to expatiate in writings of a large and imaginative character. Those, however, are the persons who particularly avoid poetry and works of imagination, whereas they ought, perhaps, to cultivate them most.

A NOBLE SENTIMENT.—Some true heart has given expression of its generous nature in the following sentiment:—  
"Never desert a friend when enemies gather round him; when sickness falls on the heart—when the world is dark and cheerless is the time to try a true friend. They who turn from the scene of distress betray their hypocrisy, and prove that interest only moves them. If you have a friend who loves you and studies your interest and happiness, be sure to sustain him in adversity. Let him feel that his former kindness is appreciated, and that his love is not thrown away. Real fidelity may be rare; but it exists in the heart. Who has not seen and felt its power? They deny its worth who never loved a friend or labored to make a friend happy.

Woman should be acquainted that no beauty has any charm but the inward one of the mind; and that a gracefulness in manner is much more engaging than that of person; that modesty and meekness are the true and lasting ornaments; for she that hath those is qualified as she ought to be for the management of a family, for the education of children, for the affection of her husband, and submitting to a prudent way of living. These only are the charms that render wives amiable, and give them the best title to men's respect.

NO NEWSPAPERS.—The city of Messina, in Sicily, with a population of 100,000, has several theaters, but "nary" a newspaper. Now, one would very naturally suppose that this great city could very well sustain two or three first-class dailies, half a dozen weeklies, and at least one magazine. But, lest some adventurous speculating Yankee should be tempted to take out a ten-cylinder Hoe press, with a full corps of Italian editors and reporters, it would at first be well to consider that of the 100,000 population, not more than 1,000 can read; and, of these, one half have no taste for reading, and the other half are too poor to purchase newspapers. The cause of this intellectual poverty may be found in the fact that they have no schools, either public or private. Nature has lavished her bounties upon the place, but man has done comparatively nothing.