

of the community. We must reach the children, the young children whose minds are receptive and plastic, and whose habits are being formed. This important work can be commenced in every home, and in every school, if parents and teachers feel their responsibilities in directing aright the latent energies of those entrusted to their care.

Children are busy observers of natural objects and have many questions to ask. This is but indicative of a healthy natural state in them. Are not their inquiries often repressed instead of being encouraged and guided? Why? one asks. And must it not be answered that those in charge of the education of children, as well as parents, do not possess the information necessary to answer simply and intelligently the questions prompted by an awakening intellect. At school and at the fireside how irrationally children have been treated. They have been shut in from nature and compelled to read, write and learn much in abstractions; while Nature, the skilful teacher, awaited them abroad in her domains to give lessons in the pleasantest, easiest form, through the senses. But "a good time is coming, boys;" it has dawned upon us, and our little human buds open in and bloom in the "Kindergarten"—the child garden, where they hear and imitate the songs and movements of birds; where God and love make all things bright and happy; where the flowers, the ants, the bees, the winds, the rain, "Jack Frost" and the stars are the playmates of the children of men. But alas! too soon there comes "a biting, chilling frost" and nips or delays such an all-round development as is desired for our blossoms. It will be only when this natural, rational culture is continued through our entire school course that a right and rational method will be followed, and be productive of good results.

The moral, mental and physical are harmoniously developed under skilful guidance, for in our rambles abroad, eyes, ears and brain are busy in noting and wondering at God's greatness, His love, and His myriad wonders of Creation. The activities of youth must be directed aright, or soon a lazy, listless humor will take possession of many, and if indulged in will be productive of idle day dreams; or, worse still, the same activities and latent energies may lead into wrong and dangerous channels, where shipwreck and disaster may ruin the staunch craft