

personal inspection, that the hands, face, and ears of the children are clean; their hair combed, and their clothes clean; for even the plainest and the coarsest clothes may be clean and neat. Should any child continue deficient in cleanliness, a note is addressed to the parents on the subject, by the master. Any child having a cutaneous or infectious disease, is immediately sent home, and not re-admitted till completely cured. Every *Monday*, or admission morning, the medical attendant of the establishment inspects all the newly-admitted children, and any of the other pupils brought under his notice.

After the Inspection is over, the children march into the school—or if in it, take their places according to their division; and the business of the day commences.

In marching into and out of school, each division is accompanied by its pupil-teacher and his assistant, one preceding, and the other bringing up the rear, in order to observe that the pupils march orderly and in silence. This rule applies to the marching to and from the play-ground, as well as to the dismissal of the school.

The pupils are not to be permitted to speak to each other while business is going on.

The subjects taught, and the precise periods allotted for each, are notified in the School Rules; which are suspended conspicuously in the school-room. The following are the principal branches taught in the school; with an outline of the methods employed in teaching them:—

ALPHABET.*

(Extracted from an unpublished Lecture.)

As the Alphabet is the first and, indeed, the most difficult lesson that children have to learn, the teacher should do everything in his power to make it as easy and as interesting to them as possible. Pes-

* The term Alphabet is derived from *Alpha, Beta*, the first two letters of the Greek alphabet; just as we say the "A.B.C." for all the letters; and *Abecedarian*, for a teacher of the Alphabet.

For an account of the origin of alphabetic writing, the National teacher is referred to the author's Lectures on Popular Education, p. 112. The ORDER of the letters in the Alphabet appears to have been a matter of chance; nor is it of much consequence how they are arranged. Some writers, however, have urged a new and philosophical arrangement. The VOWELS, they insist, should take precedence of the CONSONANTS

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