

schools are invited to meet at the Temperance Hall every Saturday at three o'clock, to take a book to be kept for a week, and hear an address respecting some object of importance. If there be any objection to meet at that place, it is hoped that some minister or teacher may appoint some other place, and occupy an hour of that day, which may not otherwise be profitably employed. This plan has been tried by many friends to the rising race in Europe and America.

THADDEUS OSGOOD.

Education.

THE TRIUMPHS OF KNOWLEDGE.

BY LINNÆUS HANKS, ESQ.

(From an Address delivered at the recent opening of the Mechanics' Institution, Harrogate, England.)

Fellow-Laborers.—We dedicate our time, our talents, our wealth, our influence, and our example to the great work upon which we are about to enter. A work, not of danger, destruction or death; but a work of fertilizing, strengthening, and adorning the human mind. The pen is our weapon, books our balls, the press our arsenal, lectures our councils of war, and institutions of learning our fortresses and barricades.

Thus equipped and sworn, like the Spartan youth, never to give up, *Onward* will be our guiding star; and as the star in the east lighted the shepherds of old to the stable in Bethlehem, so shall that word light us to the accomplishment of our wishes. The world is moving onward; but toward what, must depend upon the amount of knowledge which it carries with it. If the people are left to travel in the dark, they will go onward to greater misery and greater crimes.

We are looking forward to the advent of better days; and I rejoice to know that the means of securing them are in operation. Every letter taught to lisping infancy, every newspaper furnished, every school and every institution of learning in the land, brings "the good time" nearer, and encourages us to persevere in sowing that sure and golden seed, which once rooted in the mind, brings forth beautiful and everlasting flowers.

Knowledge opens to the mind a better and more cheering world. It introduces us to objects and glories which genius alone can portray. It lifts us above the earth; it takes us around and across it, pointing out and explaining matters marvellous and stupendous. It brings back the dead—those who went down to their graves thousands of years ago, but whose spirits still light the world.

It recalls deeds and re-enacts events over and over again, as truthfully as though we had been eye-witnesses. It also stretches far into the future. From the past to the present it ascends the dark staircase of time. It comprehends the possible as well as the actual, and furnishes histories long before they have taken place.

Knowledge enables us to live through all time. We can tread the earth from creation's dawn up to the existing moment, and become the spectators of every change it has undergone. The overthrow of dynasties, the revolutions of empires, the triumphs of art and literature, and the wars and conquests with which history groans, may all be crowded into our life's volume.

The experience of a day becomes the experience of an age, and almost gives to man the attributes of omnipresence. From the wandering Homer, who sang as never man sang before, up to Shakespeare—the bard of all time—and down to Byron, Burns, and Moore, we can sit and hold communion with every brilliant spirit, whose coruscations dazzle the earth.

Nor does the desirability of knowledge rest here. It awakens our sympathies, and by enlarging our desires, it multiplies them. It enables the possessor to command within himself all that is commendable and attractive to the eye of mankind. It brings him in contact with society, and adorns him in robes more costly than hand can weave, or skill invent.

It is his passport, his companion, his counsellor; and what is seldom met with in this world, it is his unflinching, unflinching,

uncompromising friend. Knowledge! the ability to acquire it is the one great gift of God to man. It is the channel through which He makes himself known to us. The High and Mighty One is the source of all knowledge.

Knowledge is the bulwark of our country. It is the basis of our government, the source of her glory, and the prop of her institutions. The most illustrious men of this and other ages sprung from the humbler classes of mankind, and genius does for them what wealth and station cannot do for others.

Knowledge teaches economy, prudence, temperance, industry, and honesty. It points out the way to gain, and to help those who are inclined to pursue it. It teaches us to avoid temptation, and fortifies us in the hour of peril. It puts money in the bank, clothes in the wardrobe, and delicacies in the cupboard. It provides entertainments, and supplies advantages otherwise unknown. It sends vessels freighted to sea; prepares and gathers in the produce of distant lands, makes discoveries in science and shortens the distance between localities. It lights our streets, explores our mines, and enables us to transmit our thoughts to those who are hundreds of miles distant.

Without it, the faculties of the mind are paralyzed, memory is lost, perception destroyed, taste uprooted, and reflection scattered to the "winds of heaven." Without it, the body, sympathizing with the mind, loses its elasticity and elegant proportions.—Without it, no man can soar above the earth, or perform one deed that shall send his name down to posterity honored and revered.

Knowledge is essential to enable us to know ourselves, to understand the relative dependencies of men upon their fellow-men, to guard against cunning, intrigue and sophistry, and to teach us how to appreciate the government of that Divine Agent whose arm encircleth the Universe. It is, likewise, necessary in business; for unless the head go with the hand, wheels may move, hammers may fall, and spades wear bright in vain. Without it, person and station are but "whited sepulchres," concealing the void and rottenness within.

Man was made for knowledge. His erect figure, his penetrating eye, and his organs of speech, all proclaim it. There are patriots who bear the brand and the sword, and patriots in name and speech; but the truest and best of patriotism is that which looks to the mental and moral, as well as the physical condition of a country, and which desires above all other things the cultivation of that intellect with which God has endowed its people.

HOME EDUCATION OF DAUGHTERS.

Where but at home are nurtured and expanded all the finer feelings of our nature, all the sympathies of the heart? The daughter, in relieving the mother of pressing and indispensable cares, of administering to the wants of father, brother or sister, enjoys infinitely more heartfelt satisfaction, than she could in displaying her attainments (be they ever so numerous) in what are styled the more polite accomplishments.

The aim of education seems to be to fit each of us to fill with ability and propriety our individual station in life. A correct home education must, therefore, be the corner stone of all that is truly desirable, excellent, or beautiful, in female accomplishments. What though the superstructure be ever so beautiful and elegant, ever so symmetrical and tasty; yet if the foundation be deficient, where is the worth of the edifice? Who would choose it for a resting place? Who would repose in it with trust and security?

The American mother should, above all others, feel the importance of training her daughters to habits of domestic industry to the cares and duties of *real* life, which tend to call forth the energies and enterprise of their natures, which qualify for usefulness rather than to shine and dazzle. Let the useful, the agreeable, the ornamental be made to harmonize. Our daughters should be taught to feel that a practical acquaintance with domestic labor is as indispensable to their thorough education as the knowledge of music, drawing, or the languages, and that to understand plain needlework is much more requisite than skill in embroidery. There is time enough, if introduced advantageously, from infancy to maturity, to learn all these things. While a practical knowledge of every branch of household economy detracts nothing from her accomplishments, it adds a pleasing lustre to her character.