

little fellow's in the blue jacket. Don't you call those letters of recommendation? I do, and would give more for what I can tell about a boy by using my eyes ten minutes than for all the fine letters he could bring me"

—*Children Should go to Bed Early*.—Many children, instead of being plump and fresh as a peach, are as withered and wrinkled as last year's apples, because they do not sleep enough. Some physicians think that the bones grow only during sleep. This I cannot say, certainly, but I do know that those little folks who sit up late at night are usually nervous, weak, small, and rickety.

The reason you must sleep more than your parent's is, because you have to grow and they do not. They can use up the food they eat in thinking, talking, and walking, while you should save some of yours for growing. You ought to sleep a great deal; if you do not, you will in activity consume all you eat, and have none or not enough to grow with.

Very few smart children excel, or even equal, other people when they grow up. Why is this? Because their heads, if not their bodies, are kept too busy; so that they cannot sleep, rest, and grow strong in body and brain. Now, when your mother says Katie or Georgie, or whatever your name may be, it is time to go to bed, do not worry her by begging to sit up "just a little longer," but hurry off to bed, remembering that you have a great deal of sleeping and growing to do to make you a healthy, happy and useful woman or man.

—*Night-School for Artisans*.—The city of Philadelphia has opened schools for the benefit of its artisans, and furnished instruction in the department of practical mathematics, mechanical drawing, steam engineering, business forms and penmanship, chemistry, natural philosophy, anatomy, physiology, and hygiene. The results of such efforts must be a high order of workmanship. In educating men and boys who are to become mechanical workmen, the State indirectly benefits itself. Educated and intelligent labourers, whether they are to be employed in the field, forest or workshop, will eventually lead to the advancement of all the mechanical arts by which civilisation will be promoted, and the country benefited.

The Legislature of Massachusetts has also provided for free instruction in mechanical and industrial drawing. Boston has begun the good work, by furnishing accommodations at the Institute of Technology for six hundred students.

—*Education and Labor*.—In the American Senate, December 13, Mr. Hoar from the Committee on Education and Labor, reported a Bill providing for a commission of three persons, to hold office for two years, unless their duties shall have been sooner accomplished, who are to investigate the subject of the wages and hours of labor, and the division of the joint profits of labor and capital between the laborer and the capitalist, and the social, educational, and sanitary condition of the labouring classes of the United States, and show how the same are affected by existing laws regulating commerce, finance and currency. The commissioners are to receive a salary of \$5,000 each, and may employ a clerk; they shall report the result of their investigations to the President, to be transmitted by him to Congress. The Bill was passed December 20.

—*Lord Stanley on the Study of English*.—No word will fall from me in disparagement of classical literature; I know its value full well; but it seems in a country where so many students are familiar with every dialect of Greek, and every variety of classical style, there should be so few who have really made themselves acquainted with the origin, the history and the gradual development into its present form of that mother tongue which is already spoken over half the world, and which embodies many of the noblest thoughts that have issued from the brain of man. To use words with precision and with accuracy, we ought to know their history as well as their present meaning. And depend upon it, it is the plain saxon phrase far more than any term borrowed from Greek or Roman literature that, whether in speech or in writing, goes straightest and strongest to men's heads and hearts.

—*American Items*.—In the new apportionment Bill, passed the House, the ratio of 137,800 population has been adopted, which gives a House of 283 members, or an increase of forty. Under this new apportionment Vermont and New Hampshire each loses a member, while Massachusetts gains one member, New Jersey two, and Pennsylvania two, while Illinois gains five and Missouri four. In the political division of the Union the New England States lose one member, the central Northern States gain five, the Southern border and late Slave States south of Missouri gain thirteen, and the Western States gain twenty-three. The electoral vote for the Presidency will be 357, of which the majority will be 179. The bill goes into effect March 3, 1873. The new distribution among the States will be as follows:—Maine, 2; Massachusetts, 11; Rhode Island, 2; Connecticut, 4; New-York, 32; New Jersey, 7; Pennsylvania, 26; Delaware, 1; Maryland, 6; Virginia, 9; North Carolina, 8; South Carolina, 5; Georgia, 9; Alabama, 7; Mississippi, 6; Louisiana, 5; Ohio, 20; Kentucky, 10; Tennessee, 9; Indiana, 12; Illinois, 19; Missouri, 13; Arkansas, 4; Michigan, 9; Florida, 1; Texas, 6; Iowa, 9; Wisconsin, 8; California, 4; Minnesota, 3; Oregon, 1; Kansas, 3; West Virginia, 3; Nevada, 1; Nebraska, 1.

The Secretary of the Treasury reports that the total expenditures for the last year amounted to \$292,177,188, and the receipts for the same period to \$383,323,944.

The Post-master General reports that the revenue of his department during the last fiscal year amounted to \$20,037,045, the expenditures to \$24,390,104.

Science.

—*Catalogues of Scientific Works*.—Among the most useful aids to those engaged in scientific research are well digested catalogues of all the books and memoirs bearing upon the subjects of their inquiry. Nearly all branches of science have such indexes which, indeed, are indispensable works of reference. Amongst the most important of such works is one undertaken several years ago by the Royal Society of London, and mainly, according to the preface of the first volume, in consequence of a suggestion to that effect made by professor Henry of the Smithsonian Institution. This is intended to contain a list of all scientific papers or articles published in private serials or the transactions of societies, from the earliest period of logical research down to the present date, the names of authors being arranged in alphabetical sequence, with the titles under each in chronological order. Of this gigantic work, five volumes, each as large as a volume of the "Encyclopædia Britannica," have already been published, and the sixth and last is now in press, and will appear in the course of the coming year.

—*German Fishery Association*.—Among the various organizations established for the promotion of national industry and welfare, one of the most important is the German Fishery Association, recently organized, with its head-quarters at Berlin. This is directed by some of the most eminent naturalists in the country, assisted by men of practical experience in fish-culture and other allied pursuits; and it has already done a great deal towards accomplishing the mission for which it was established.

Many inquiries have been initiated in reference to the proper mode of the culture of oysters, crabs, and other marine invertebrates, as also in regard to the hatching and rearing of edible fish, both fresh water and marine. Its transactions embrace original memoirs and translations from Scandinavian authorities whose experience is considered of value to other parts of Europe. There is no association precisely similar to this in the United States,—says *Harper's Weekly*,—although the harmonious cooperation of the Fishery Commissioners of the Union, which has been so frequently exhibited, perhaps answers the purpose to a certain degree. There is however, nothing in the way of Official Reports in America that at all correspond in thoroughness and extent to those of the German Association, documents emanating from the Department of Fisheries in Canada coming nearest to them.

—*Russian Polar Expeditions*.—Preparations continue to be made on the part of the Russian Government, assisted by its scientific men, for the great polar expeditions of 1872-73. Among the points to which special attention is to be directed are, in the region west of Nova