

vance of the requisitions of the law by all teachers of the public schools in the State in communicating moral instruction to all the pupils committed to their care, we should have less occasion for reform schools, prisons and penitentiaries. Our system of education knows no distinction in social condition; it seeks all the youth between five and fifteen years, rich or poor, high or low, native or foreign, and seeks to give them that mental, moral and physical culture which will qualify them to discharge the social and civil duties of citizens."

The reader, on perusal of this report cannot fail to observe one prominent feature pervading the whole report,—namely: the great importance attached to SPELLING and READING.

In teaching spelling, the report recommends WRITTEN in preference to ORAL spelling. And with reference to reading, the Inspector for the district of Warren says,—“We have but few good readers in our schools. Only a limited few read understandingly. * * Those who cannot read understandingly will not as a general thing, study profitably, think correctly, express their thoughts clearly, reason logically or truthfully.”

This last quotation forms a lesson well worthy the attention of every reader, and especially teachers of elementary knowledge in the public schools of the country. To know how to read properly is an important part of our education.

Slang Words and Phrases.

A lecture recently delivered in Carlisle by the Rev. A. Brown contained the following amusing and instructive passage:—The point to which I have next to direct attention is manliness in speech. There are many young men who seem to consider it essential to manliness that they should be masters of slang. The sporting world, like its brother, the swell mob, has a language of its own; but this dog-English extends far beyond the sporting world. It comes with its hordes of barbarous words, threatening the entire extinction of genuine English. Now just listen for a moment to our fast young man, or the ape of a fast young man, who thinks that to be a man he must speak in the dark phraseology of slang. If he does anything on his own responsibility he does it on his own “hook.” If he sees anything remarkably good he calls it a “stunner,” the superlative of which is a “regular stunner.” If a man is requested to pay a tavern bill he is asked if he will “stand Sam.” If he incets a savage-looking dog he

calls him an “ugly customer.” If he meets an eccentric man he calls him a “rummy old cove.” A sensible man is a “chap that is up to snuff.” Our young friend never scolds, but “blows up;” never pays, but “stumps up;” never finds it difficult to pay, but is “hard up;” never feels fatigued, but is “used up.” He has no hat, butshelters his head beneath “a tile.” He wears no neckcloth, but surrounds his throat with a “choker.” He lives nowhere, but there is some place where he “hangs out.” He never goes away or withdraws, but he “bolts”—he “slopes”—he “mizzles”—he “makes himself scarce”—“walks his chinks”—he “makes tracks”—he “cuts his stick”—or what is the same thing, he “cuts his lucky!”—The highest compliment you can pay him is to tell him that he is a “regular brick.” He does not profess to be brave, but he prides himself on being “plucky.” Money is a word which he has forgotten, but he talks a good deal about “tin” and “the needful”—“the rhino,” and the “ready.”—