

Lose not your books, ink-horns, or pens,
nor girdle, garters, hat, or band,
Let shoes be tied, pin shirt-band close,
keep well your hands at any hand.

If broken-hosed or shoed you go,
or slovenly in your array,
Without a girdle or untrust,
then you and I must have a fray.

If that thou cry or talk aloud,
or books do read, or strike with knife,
Or laugh, or play unlawfully,
then you and I must be at strife.

If that you curse, miscall, or swear,
if that you pick, filch, steal, or lye;
If you forget a scholar's part,
then must you sure your points untye.

If that to school you do not go,
when time doth call you to the same;
Or if you loiter in the streets,
when we do meet then look for blame.

Wherefore, my child, behave thyself,
so decently in all assays,
That thou may'st purchase parents' love,
and eke obtain thy master's praise.

EDUCATION FOR GUIDANCE.

What shall we say of a system of education which throws its students into society unable to protect themselves from the grossest impostures? To what end is a community filled with colleges, high schools, and common schools, upon which millions of dollars are spent, when its graduates go out to become the ready prey of charlatans and sharpers, who can enrich themselves by pushing the most absurd and preposterous projects?

We are led to these reflections by the last curious report of lightning-rod swindles. The proud State that gives us our President and Chief Justice, and makes a great ado about its education, has also the honor of originating and harboring "Chambers's National Lightning Protection Company" of Cincinnati. The Americans are a progressive people, great on improvements, and the Westerners are specially wide-awake in this respect. So the new lightning-rod is a great step forward in inventive science. It is laid flat upon the ridge of the building, and turned up at the two ends, and has no connection with the ground. Its rationale seems to be that the lightning-discharge is caught upon one of the points, and, there being no rod to convey it to the earth, it is obliged to "diffuse back into the air, where it belongs and whence it came." Of course, such an arrangement is worthless for protection, and is, moreover, absolutely dangerous, as every intelligent schoolboy ought to know; and yet such is the grossness of public stupidity that the company drove a thriving business with their contrivance, mounting it upon a great number of private dwellings, and even upon school buildings. Professor Macomber, of the Agricultural College at Ames, Iowa, seeing the extent to which people were humbugged by this so-called "Protector," publicly denounced it as a fraud, whereupon he was prosecuted by the company, which laid its damages at \$50,000.—*Prof. E. L. Youmans, in Popular Science Monthly for February.*

IMPORTANT FACTS CONCERNING COMPULSORY EDUCATION AND ILLITERACY. State Superintendent Smart recently answered the following questions through the *Indianapolis Daily Journal*—

1. What nations have now in force a compulsory education law?
2. What per cent. of the population of each nation can read and write?

3. What per cent. of the population of the United States can read and write?

4. Have any of the States had such a law, and what ones?

The nations having compulsory educational laws are as follows: Prussia, since 1732; all the German States, before 1810; Austria, in a modified form, for a hundred years; the Scandinavian Government and Denmark, since 1814; Greece, since 1834; all the cantons of Switzerland except Geneva; Turkey since 1869, but the laws

have not been enforced; Italy since 1871; Spain and Portugal, but the laws are not enforced. The school boards of England have had the power to compel attendance since 1871, and the cities of Liverpool, Manchester, Oxford and many other towns have compulsory laws.

2. The per cent. of population of different nations that can read and write is as follows, viz.: Switzerland, 100; Denmark, 100; Sweden, 100; Norway, 100; Japan, 90; Germany, 88; United States, 80; Belgium, 70; England, 67; France, 67; Austria, 51; China, 50; Italy, 27; Spain, 20; Greece, 18; Argentine Republic, 17; Russia, 09; Poland, 09; Mexico, 07; India, 05.

3. Per cent. of population of the United States that can read and write, 80.

4. Names of States that have had compulsory educational laws are as follows, viz.: Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Michigan, Nevada, California, Texas.

In most, if not all, of these States the law is practically inoperative.

PRONUNCIATION vs. SPELLING.—A copy of Webster's Unabridged Dictionary was offered at a teachers' institute in Pennsylvania to any teacher who would read the following paragraph and pronounce every word correctly, according to Webster. No one succeeded in earning the dictionary, although nine teachers made the attempt: "A sacrilegious son of Belial, who suffered from bronchitis, having exhausted his finances, in order to make good the deficit, resolved to ally himself to a comely, lenient, and docile young lady of the Malay or Caucasian race. He accordingly purchased a calliope and a coral necklace of a chameleon hue, and securing a suite of rooms at a principal hotel, he engaged the head waiter as his coadjutor. He then despatched a letter of the most unexceptional caligraphy extant, inviting the young lady to a matinee. She revolted at the idea, refused to consider herself sacrificeable to his desires, and sent a polite note of refusal; on receiving which, he procured a carbine and bowie knife, said that he would not forge fetters hymeneal with the queen, went to an isolated spot, severed his jugular vein, and discharged the contents of his carbine into his abdomen. The debris was removed by the coroner."

Dream of the Past,
'Tis joy unspeakable thus now, as then,
To see those visions, though they may not last—
May never come again.

Still are they mine—
Not of the earth, all earthly and unblest;
Their home within my heart, my soul the shrine
Where they so calmly rest! *Lyle.*

Publishers' Department.

The following is a sample of numerous letters received from various parts of the United States regarding Mr. Hughes' work, "Mistakes in Teaching":

Messrs. GAGE & Co.

Gentlemen,—The book sent me by your house fully confirms the statement made by the Hon. W. D. Henkle, of Ohio. It really is "a happy hit," and in reading its pages I was reminded of many a blunder that took place in my early experience. I think he who makes himself intimately acquainted with the contents of "Mistakes in Teaching" is sure to succeed, provided he makes and holds a thorough acquaintance with the details of school work. Noticed advertisement of CANADA SCHOOL JOURNAL in said book; would thank you for a sample copy.

I remain, yours truly,

H. LENICH MEYER (Teacher),
Kutztown, Pa.

Messrs. Carter, Dinsmore & Co., Boston and New York, Manufacturers of Carter's Writing Fluids, Inks and Mucilages, received the "First Award," the highest given, at the International Exhibition just closed at Sydney, Australia.