

known. We dare not think of them having a Thackeray or a Tennyson; for the much less pretentious productions, as "Little Red Riding Hood," or "Mother Goose," would be far beyond their reach. Fortunately, in their books, could be found none of those "blood curdling adventures, as portrayed in the dime novel of this land, and which have wrought such havoc in some of the lives of our high spirited youths. On the other hand, it is a sad thing to think that their libraries would only be collections of statistical books, devoid of all coloring or beauty of expression.

There is a last thought arising in connection with this school life, and that is concerning the condition of the political world this being suggested by the government exerted over the youths by their instructor. What their parliaments might be, we cannot tell, but that there would necessarily be a difference between their statesmen and our own we can affirm. Their minister would be deprived, to a great degree, of that faculty of foresight into the future, which depended so materially upon the power of accurately constructing the possible movements of his opponent. And the testimony of history is, that such an office will be attended with success or failure, in the degree with which the man filling it is endowed with this faculty.

We have gone far from our starting point, namely the home, and to this we must now return for the purpose of studying the religious attainments of this people. We are sure that in such a dwelling the religion of its inmates will not be tainted with superstition. Witches, ghosts and uncanny spirits will not roam through its rooms making "the air lurid and thick with things weird and fantastic." Neither could there be any idols at the family altar, to receive the adoration of blind belief. There are indeed inspiring thoughts but we must enquire further. What will be their conception of God? It is through the imagination that we are enabled to represent the invisible by the visible, the infinite by the finite. Ideas cannot exist except by this power. This being true, they could have a logical demonstration of a creator and director of this universe; but with only these syllogistical conclusions would not the very heart of the religious life be cold and still? If one placed the Bible in their hands, they could understand many things, for that book addresses itself to the reasoning abilities of man; but it also contains a great deal which appeals to the imagination, and if one was lacking in this quality much of revelation would be a sealed book.