

though some reserve must be made for girls' "colleges," which often swarm with over-eager students; but it is certainly not true of Prussia. There education is the condition of professional success, and the number of suicides in the high schools has shocked the Minister of Education. He has accordingly issued a circular warning the heads of those schools to be more moderate, and in particular to make allowances for students naturally unable to advance so fast. We wish some German statist would carefully examine the Prussian and Saxon statistics of suicide. We have seen accounts of suicide in the army and in one of the universities which, until verified, we do not care to quote, but which suggest that Germany pays a high price for her splendid discipline and devotion to culture. Is it true, or is it nonsense, to say that in the army, in peace time, suicide ranks very high among "the regular causes of mortality?" It seems impossible; but then, so does the fact clearly admitted by the Minister of Education.—*The London Spectator*.

FRIENDLY RELATIONS.—And now I will point out another defect in high school education which parents and mistresses may do much to remedy. There is usually—and I am assuming without direct knowledge that it is the case here—no system by which any one girl is known through her whole school career to any one

mistress; nothing corresponding to the tutor system of our public schools. It follows that a girl passes from form to form, and the relation between her and her mistress is so constantly broken that it is morally less powerful than it might be. The friendly and permanent relation of old days is converted into an official and temporary relation. It will be obvious to any one who reflects that the loss is great. The cure for it is twofold. The parents may do much by establishing a friendly relation with the form mistresses of their girls. I have known parents who had never taken the trouble to inquire even the names of their girls' mistresses. If parents wish to get really the best out of a school, I would say to them (and I am speaking specially to mothers), you are delegating to the form mistress a very large share of the responsibility for the formation of your daughter's character; the least you can do is to be in the most friendly and confidential communication with her that circumstances permit. And I would say to the mistresses that, as far as is possible, you should be to the girls what form masters are in a good school to their boys—friends in school and out of school, acquainted with their tastes, companions sometimes in their games or their walks, and in all ways breaking down the merely formal relation of teacher and pupil.—*The Head Master of Clifton College*.

ANOTHER tea-producing district is the latest novelty in the tea trade. Lately it was tea from Fiji, now it is the growth of Perak, situate in the Straits Settlements of the East Indies, where British capital and enterprise seem to have been employed with beneficial results. We learn from the *Grocer* that the first consignment to the London market has recently taken place. It consisted of an invoice of 78 half chests from the Perak Estate, where the tea has evidently

been grown, cultivated, manipulated by persons of considerable skill and experience in the industry. By expert valuers in "The Lane" the quality of this experimental shipment is favourably spoken of, and on its being offered in public sale it found ready buyers at full rates, namely, broken Pekoe at 1s. 3½d.; Pekoe at 11½d.; Pekoe Sou-chong at 9½d.; Souchong, a single package, at the same price; and dust at 5½d. per lb.—*The London Free Press*.