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FORM STUDY AND DRAWING,

By Miss Hicks, Boston.

It seems to be not unfitting to present to a body of thoughtful and earnest teachers a view of the evolution of form study and drawing, showing to some degree how it has been developed, before proceeding to a consideration of some of the methods now employed in teaching form study and drawing in the public schools.

It is within the memory of many of us that drawing was formerly merely an accomplishment, fitted only for the rich who could pay for special instruction, who could allow to their children the extras of education, or special masters, or of the specially gifted whose talents demanded these masters. This may be called the first stage of drawing in education, appealing to but a small class.

The professor of drawing at Rugby said even as late as 1856 : " In England Art has hitherto occupied a lower position in our public schools than in most parts of the Continent ; *here* it has been treated as an agreeable pastime, or trifling accomplishment ; *there* it takes rank at once as a study, contributing largely to the cultivation of the taste and the improvement of the mind."

But at this very time great forces were at work in England