

seriously advise that our male teachers give this important matter their attention, and not wait for legislative action with regard to it. As the Superintendent remarks, the cost is insignificant, and the advantages cannot be overrated. Had the system been introduced into our country ten years ago, more money would in consequence thereof have been saved in the present year than would be expended in drilling our youth for a century. Let us drill as well as educate our children, and then we shall always have an army ready for any emergency.—*Rochester Express*.

3. THE ENJOYMENTS OF A LIBRARY.

The cheapest of all enjoyments, by far, is that which is derived from books. A library must, therefore, be considered the fittest furniture of even the poorest man's house. A most important and cheering consideration in reference to this sort of furniture, is, that the more the demand for books shall increase, the cheaper they are sure to be sold. The price even of many new books, owing to the large sale upon which the publisher can now count by the increase of readers, is so low, that for a few pounds, expended in the course of as many years, almost as many volumes may be purchased, full of the most instructive and interesting information, as one who is employed during the day can find time to read and study.

When once purchased, a library remains a useful property for ever. Books, however much used, if they be only used properly, should never wear out, and continue in as good condition after many years, as when they came from the press.

There are such multitudes of books so badly written, and tending to so little good,—nay, to direct evil—that it has indeed become somewhat difficult to know what one really should read. But, on the other hand, there are so many that are useful and contain so many beautiful sentiments, that they truly serve as intellectual feasts. To peruse them once is sufficient to induce one to go over them a second, and even a third time, marking for special meditation those passages which particularly strike the reader, and at every rehearsal gaining more and more information and pleasure.

I have heard many of my friends exclaim with respect to some work, "Oh, I am so glad I have finished that book; it has kept my imagination on the stretch the whole time." What a woeful plight such a mind must be in, and what excessive folly does such a person exhibit. The book is closed, with a sigh of relief that it is finished. The reader appears to contemplate a blank—feels disgusted with and unfit for every-day life—the imagination has been tortured, and strung to its highest pitch in watching the fate of some favorite hero or heroine, and the whole being is enervated and wearied out. Yet the saddest consideration of all is, that if such a book be examined from beginning to end, there will not, perhaps, be found in it one single truly noble sentiment, or a character portrayed from the study of which a useful lesson may be learned.

Such books should be gathered into a great heap and set on fire; and I venture to say, that if this were done, thousands would give the same sigh of relief that such trash was out of existence, as they do now when they have finished a book of this description.

It is not necessary that I should attempt to point out any books as being suitable, and worthy of perusal. No; there are, as I have said, so many excellent publications, that if any one but take the trouble of looking over the catalogue of any bookseller, he will be able to select as many books as will afford him solid enjoyment for a year to come.—S. S., in *Montreal Witness*.

4. THE OLD MILLER'S LESSON.

It was noon recess at the little "Brookside school," and the boys had taken their dinner-baskets down to "the old mill," according to custom. It was the pleasantest spot they could find those hot summer noons. The cool splash of the water was refreshing to hear as it flowed over the milldam stones, while a little down the stream, was a broad gray rock, overhung by the bank and shaded by trees which was their favourite resort, as it was always a comfortable spot, even on August days. The old miller stopped the rumble of his huge wheels at the noon-time hour, and was always ready to take his lunch when the boys came down. He loved their bright, young faces, and they in turn revered his gray hairs. He settled all their little disputes, helped them in their little troubles, and many were the words of earthly and heavenly wisdom they learned from his lips.

"Uncle Roger," said Benny that summer day "how I wish I could find a mine of gold about this old creek. I read, the other day, of a mine somebody found, by pulling up a little bush he caught hold of to help him up a bank. There was the shining yellow ore sticking to the bottom, among the dirt and pebbles."

"That shrub had a rich soil to grow from, hadn't it, Benny?"

"I should think it had, said Mark "I would like to find a shrub growing in such soil."

"And yet, I'll warrant," said uncle Roger, "it was a poor dwarfed shrub, for gold isn't the right soil for trees to grow in any more than for boys. Did you ever know, lads, that it is the poor hardworking boys of our country, that make the most of our great men? They haven't money to waste in dissipation, and they are obliged to exercise most of the day in the pure, fresh air. So they grow up strong in body and in mind. In our favoured country any one can get an education who has a mind to, and the harder he works for it the more good it will do him. Mind-power is better than money-power any day, boys. Don't fret because you can't fill your pockets with yellow earth, when you have such a good chance to fill your heads with true gold.

"There is another kind of riches, more important still, which we can all have, if we will only choose it. It is the love of God and the forgiveness of all our sins, which Jesus Christ died to procure for us. Without this, we shall be very poor in this life, even with millions of money, and in the next life, most wretched beggars. You know the rich man the Bible tells us of, begged even for a drop of water to cool his tongue, and could not get it.

"Now, boys, say over this little text, each one, and then run along to school, for the master's first bell has rung."

"How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of heaven."—*The Child at Home*.

5. MODERN CHILDREN.

An English magazine writer says:—"Children now are brought up on a very different principle from that on which their fathers and mothers were prepared for the wear and tear, for the sufferings and temptations of life. The difference between right and wrong, we frequently find now a days, is made more of argumentative than of practical interest; and it is not unusual to hear a parent discussing with mere infants the whys and the wherefores, the pros and the cons of everything which it is required to do. A sharp child, consequently, often gets the best of the argument; the humiliated parent is reduced to silence or snappishness, according to his indolent temperamental, and the child sees his advantage, and does no fail to let it appear that he does.

"This is a very different system from the laconic 'do this' and 'do that' of a day gone by; or from the 'wholesome neglect,' the disgrace and isolation of the juvenile delinquent who was a wilful transgressor of established rules. No one was then allowed to plead moral color-blindness to the different shades of right and wrong. Children were not so much experimentalized upon; or brought up in that visionary theoretical school whose training leaves the youthful mind impressed with the idea that nothing is very right and that nothing is very wrong—that much which appears right on the face of it has some demoralizing tendency at the root; and that much which at first sight strikes us as wrong, is in fact entitled to some interest, and is more a misfortune of circumstances than an error in act. The moral delinquent of this school is invested with a sort of value, as a chemical test by which to detect some poisonous ingredient in the last new educational tonic administered at the instigation of a successful quack. The good little brother or sister who has no moral wound to heal is comparatively uninteresting."

6. CANADIAN SCHOOL APPARATUS.

The Board of Arts and Manufactures of Upper Canada in their recent report state that "although the Autumn exhibition was in itself a very interesting one, yet your Board cannot but deplore the want of interest manifested in it by the mechanics and manufacturers of the city, whose entries ought, on this occasion, to have equalled in number those of all the other classes of competitors united. There were, however, besides the articles entered in competition for prizes, a large number of manufactured and other articles placed in the rooms for exhibition only. In this latter class your Board have great pleasure in naming a large and interesting collection of Mathematical and School Apparatus, exhibited by the Educational Department of Upper Canada, the whole of which was manufactured in this city. Such a collection as this was, although no other mechanical specimens had been shown, would alone have established the character of our artisans for skill and good workmanship."

WAGES OF CHINESE SCHOOLMASTERS.

The income of a Chinese schoolmaster depends on the number of his pupils, but they must not exceed 20. Every boy is bound to give his teacher annually the following articles: Rice, 50lbs., for extra provisions, 300; lamp oil, 1 catty (1½lb.); lard, 1 catty; salt, 1 catty; tea, 1 catty; and besides, a sum of from \$1.25 to \$4.00, according to the boy's age and ability.—*All the year Round*.