

who has learned to study aright ; while one may have acquired in the mechanical way a great amount of knowledge, and yet have no profitable mental discipline.

For this difference in children, the teacher is more responsible than any other person. Let him therefore carefully consider this matter.

INCONSISTENCY OF THE PEOPLE.

[By the Hon. HORACE MANN.]

The people do not yet seem to see that all the cost of legislating against criminals ; of judges and prosecuting officers, of jurors and witnesses to convict them ; of building houses of correction, and jails and penitentiaries, for restraining and punishing them, is not a hundredth part of the grand total of expenditure incurred by private and social immoralities and crimes. The people do not yet seem to see, that the intelligence and morality which education imparts, is that beneficent kind of insurance which, by preventing losses, obviates the necessity of indemnifying for them ; thus saving both premium and risk. What is engulfed in the vortex of crime, in each generation, would build a palace of Oriental splendor in every school district in the land ; would endow it with a library beyond the ability of a life-time to read ; would supply it with apparatus and laboratories for the illustration of every study and the exemplification of every art, and munificently requite the services of a teacher worthy to preside in such a sanctuary of intelligence and virtue.

But the prevention of all that havoc of worldly goods which is caused by vice, transfers only one item from the loss, to the profit side of the account. Were all idle, intemperate, predatory men to become industrious, sober and honest, they would add vast sums to the inventory of the nation's wealth, instead of subtracting from it. Let any person take a single town, village or neighborhood, and look at its inhabitants individually, with the question in his mind,—how many of them are producers and how many are non-producers ; that is, either by the labor of the body or the labor of the mind, add value and dignity to life, and how many barely support themselves ; and I think he will often be surprised at the smallness of the number, by whose talent and industry the store-houses of the earth are mainly filled, and all the complicated business of society is principally managed. Could we convert into co-workers for the benefit of mankind, all those physical and spiritual powers of usefulness which are now antagonists or neutrals, the gain would be incalculable.

Add the two above items together,—namely, the saving of what the vicious now squander or destroy, and the wealth which, as virtuous men they would amass—and the only difficulty presented would be, to find in what manner so vast an amount could be beneficially disposed of.

When the city of Boston was convinced of the necessity of having a supply of pure water from abroad, for the use of its inhabitants ; it voted three millions of dollars to obtain it ; and he would be a bold man who would now propose a repeal of the ordinance, though all past expenditures could be refunded. Yet all the school-houses in Boston, which it has erected during the present century, are not worth a fourth part of this sum. For the supply of water, the city of New York lately incurred an expenditure of thirteen millions of dollars. Admitting, as I most cheerfully do, that the use of water pertains to the moral as well as to the ceremonial law, yet our cities have pollutions which water can never wash away,—defilements which the baptism of a moral and Christian education alone can remove. There is not an appetite that allies man to the brute, nor a passion for vain display which makes him more contemptible than any part of the irrational creation, which does not cost the country more every year, than such a system of schools as would, according to the evidence I have exhibited, redeem it almost entirely from its follies and its. Consider a single fictitious habit of our people, which no one will pretend adds any degree to the health, or length to the life, or decency to the manners of the nation,—I mean the smoking of tobacco. It is said, on good authority, that the annual expenditure in the country for the support of this habit is ten millions of dollars ; and if we reflect that this sum, averaged upon all the people, would be only one half dollar a-piece, the estimate seems by no means extravagant. Yet this is far more than is paid to the teachers of all the Public schools in the United States.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND LECTURES.

[By O. S. FOWLER, Esq., A. M.]

FACILITIES FOR STUDY are every way inferior, whereas they ought to abound. Books should be multiplied a thousand fold, till they become the great commodity of traffic and commerce. But most of all they require to be IMPROVED. Trashy novels require to be superseded by works full of sound sense, excellent instruction, and scientific knowledge. Yet they should not be dry and plodding but filled, not merely with all that halo of beauty which clusters around every right exhibition of the works of nature—because around the works themselves—but with all the elegance of diction and charms of style which appertain to language. A clumsy or inspid style in a scientific work, is like rags on the goddess of beauty. How pre-eminently does the subject allow and require all the excellencies and ornaments of style so abundant in the very nature of language ! Every child's school-book should equal Irving's "Sketch Book," for felicity of diction. Dress up all the inherent beauty of nature in all the charms of a truly splendid style—blend the useful with the rich—and such books as mortal eyes never yet beheld, would render reading far more enchanting than the ball-room.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES.—These books, thus splendid in composition, should be accessible to all. Private libraries are eminently useful, but public vastly more so. The poor require reading material equally with the rich. Let it be furnished, and crime, generally associated with ignorance, would thereby be prevented. Let government advance funds for this purpose, and they will have less requisition for jails and hangmen. As you EDUCATE THE PEOPLE you proportionally diminish crime. A hundred fold more effectual preventive this than punitive measures. In fact, unite physical and intellectual with moral training, and you head off crimes almost together. If men knew the consequences of violating law, they would sin less. Public reading-rooms are of course recommended as a part of public libraries ; and so are circulating libraries. But we especially require FEMALE reading-rooms. Women love to read, and should have equal access to this means of mental culture.

PUBLIC LECTURES will be found still more promotive of public intelligence and virtue. Let every village and neighbourhood have a splendid public room, attractively arranged and fitted up, and capable of holding "all the region round about," and let government employ and support lecturers, in part, at public expense, as it now does teachers, furnished with splendid apparatus for illustrating the respective sciences on which they lecture ; and let them spend their lives in the service. Let one man have manikins and anatomical models, drawings, and preparations, and occupy a given section, say one or more counties, which he should visit at stated intervals, so that all could hear as they are growing up. Let him teach anatomy and physiology ; especially the young the value of health, means of preserving it, and causes of its destruction. Pay five dollars to this object, where hundreds are now paid to physicians for TRYING to cure, and few would be sick, and those who were would be able to doctor themselves. Strange that doctors have not enlightened the people touching the laws of health, long before this. But their neglect will prove their ruin, which many of us will live to see.

Let another public Lecturer be fitted out with a phrenological apparatus—drawings, paintings, animal and human casts and skulls, and whatever else will illustrate or enforce his subject, and pass around his circuit periodically, lecturing on this science of mind, and telling parents how to manage this child, govern that, and educate the other, and in what occupations they will each succeed ; as well as pour forth that perpetual stream of ADVICE which Preno-logy gives in such rich abundance and personal applicability. Let him also add the MENTAL PHILOSOPHY, and MORALS and ethics, of this science of man, so that the entire body politic shall not only be treated to the rich intellectual repast which it serves up, but become imbued with its purifying, elevating doctrines ; and a powerful check would thus be given to vice, and incentives to public virtue and improvement be propounded for general emulation. Say, reader, has not this science purified your own feelings, and improved your MORALS as well as intellects ? It will do this for all.

Kindred lecturers should be employed and fitted out with abundant apparatus for illustrating chemistry, natural history, geology, chro-