

In full, the true educator endeavors to make her pupils "make the most of themselves," by instilling principles of virtue and honor; and teaching them that goodness and usefulness are the greatest nobility.

The teacher who has the privilege of moving in a social and moral school atmosphere—and all may, who admit the truth of "the world is just what you make it,"—will not find the work irksome. True, it is sometimes tiresome and discouraging, but consciousness of duty faithfully and lovingly performed will be an ample reward.

L. M.

#### On Temperance Teaching.

The *Canadian Voice*, from which the following extracts are taken has been a most potent agency, during the four years of its existence, in creating a strong temperance sentiment in the communities where it circulates.

"Already there are millions of American, and hundreds of thousands of Canadian children, under compulsory scientific temperance education laws. \* \* Illustrated text books on Physiology and Hygiene, the fourth part, at least, of the first two books of the series teaching the harmfulness of alcohol and other narcotics, should be put into the hands of all our pupils. The use of manikins, and of physiological charts, by capable teachers, would also tend greatly toward successful teaching of these subjects. The knowledge which is to warn our children away from pitfalls, which will surely be laid for them, should not be in any way slurred over. A knowledge which is calculated to ensure the future safety of the home, and consequently of the nation, should be religiously imparted. \* \* \*"

"Upon our teachers rests the responsibility of imparting scientific temperance instruction in such a manner that it will be interesting to children; in such a manner that the truths concerning alcohol and narcotics will be so clearly and vividly brought before their minds that they may be convincing; and leave a lasting impression upon them."

"The evils of the tobacco vice should also be set prominently forward. \* \* \* Especially, should the harmfulness of cigarette smoking be dwelt upon; as it not only fastens the tobacco habit upon the young smokers, but may lead to the terrible chains of the opium vice."

"The future welfare of the Canadian people is largely in the hands of the Canadian teachers."

Inspector Carter will, during the latter part of March and April, visit the schools in St. John County, East, and in the South End of St. John City.

Dr. Stanley Hall claims that every moment over a half-hour's attention exacted or sought to be exacted from the youngest children in the primary school is a mistake. He is undoubtedly right. The school hours for the younger pupils, in all our public schools, are altogether too long. The idea of expecting from a child of seven or eight years of age, five or six hours of brain-work per day is preposterous and the attempt cruel. True, we have improved somewhat upon the old methods in that, in all schools of the better class, the monotony and fatigue are, to some extent, relieved by the introduction of various exercises of a different kind, such as songs, marches, calisthenics, etc. Still, the hours spent in the school-room are too long by half for children under eight, and too long in proportions varying with the age and other physical conditions for older children. It is this, among other mistakes in method, which causes so many children to hate what should be a delight. We often feel a profound pity for young children in this city, who are not only cooped up for five or six hours a day in the school-room, but are actually robbed of a large portion of their evening and morning play by being obliged to do a certain amount of homework. Truly we need another humane society—one for the prevention of cruelty to children in the schools—cruelty inflicted under the sanction of the law, and in most cases, with the consent and approval of parents.—*Toronto Educational Journal*.

#### QUESTION DEPARTMENT.

Please solve Hamblin Smith, p. 270, example 99: What must be the least number of soldiers in a regiment to admit of its being drawn up 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6 deep, and also of its being formed into a solid square?

The required number must, of course, contain the factors 2, 3, 5, but as it is a square, it must contain them each twice, viz.,  $(2 \times 3 \times 5) (2 \times 3 \times 5) = 900$ .

Also p. 274, example 143: Two cisterns of equal dimensions are filled with water, and the taps for both are opened at the same time. If the water in one will run out in 5 hours, and that in the other in 4 hours, find when one cistern will have twice as much water as the other has.

Suppose the cisterns to contain 20 gallons each. Then from the first there runs out 4 gallons per hour and from the second 5 gallons per hour. There will remain in at the end of the time

$(5 \text{ hrs.} - \text{required hrs.}) 4 = 2(4 \text{ hrs.} - \text{required hrs.}) 5$   
 $20 - 4 \text{ required hours} = 40 - 10 \text{ required hours.}$

$20 = 6 \text{ required hours.}$

$3\frac{1}{2} = \text{required hours.}$

This is of course only an awkward solution on algebraical principles. It is waste time to have such exercises solved by arithmetic when they are so easy by algebra.