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DOES EDUCATION DIMINISH INDUSTRY?

The London Spectator, at once the most serious and dignified of papers, recently published an article of which the above is the title, which took for the subject of its comments the plan now being advocated in England for introducing workshops into the national schools. As the same plan is coming into prominence in this country, the Spectator's remarks will interest our readers. The writer in question says that many critics of the present system of primary instruction in England fear that it will breed up a generation with a distaste, and even contempt, for manual "The boys make less trusty workmen, and the girls worse cooks and housemaids and laundry-women." They "are less handy and more conceited than a forme, generation; having less liking for work, and more 'notions.'" As this language is used in advocating a specific project, it is, perhaps, too strong to be critical; but there is no doubt it expresses a feeling very general not only with "the classes," but with the employers of labor, of all degrees, and especially with employers in a small way. Moreover, behind all these complaints, some of which are justified, for the English have as yet been too busy making up leeway in the battle with utter ignorance to attend sufficiently to technical education, there rests an idea general enough and broad enough to deserve attention—the idea that education is in itself

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