

sport, to the intense delight of the participants, and the by no means slight enjoyment of the lookers-on. These games have all a meaning and an object, and are arranged with a view to the harmonious and healthy growth of the child's mental, moral and physical nature.

"After a short lunch, the occupations were resumed. When they first gathered around the tables, it seemed not unlike the assembling together of quite a number of ladies at a tea party, the conversation was so brisk and sociable, but in three or four minutes each child was intently engaged in sewing in and out with colored worsteds. It was not like a school, there was no repression, no enforced silence, no fears of the raw-hide or the teacher's frown, no books, no punishments; it was rather like a cheerful workshop where each was absorbed in his work, not as a disagreeable task, but rather as a delightful occupation. Strict silence was by no means enjoined, and if after a few minutes of employment a happy thought occurred to any little worker, he was encouraged to speak it out, and when any one was pleased, he was allowed to laugh. While the rest were at work, it occurred to a bright-eyed little fellow that he would like to recite a verse; leave was granted, and we undoubtedly got the benefit of his last exercise at the Sunday-school. A little girl followed with a verse that was evidently original, and none the less interesting for that; and then one volunteered a song. The charming innocence and unconscious simplicity displayed in their little interludes, were fascinating. There was apparently no thought of showing off, nothing got up beforehand for the occasion, but they were spontaneous outbursts of their happy childish natures, mingled with an evident desire to do something that should meet with the approval of their friend, Miss Held. Still the work went on and the beginning of very pretty designs was wrought out. The children seemed happy, but not boisterous, attentive to their play work, but not stunted into stupid apathy. It was order, and such order as seemed the outgrowth of the individual of each child. And yet they had only been two or three months together, at longest, and most of them a much less time. How such order could be wrought out of the chaos that must have existed on the first day, is a mystery which one could hope to solve only after frequent and prolonged visits.

"The occupations are varied every day, and we only regret that our stay was too short to permit us to see the 'Building,' 'Weaving,' 'Folding,' 'Peas Work,' 'Moulding in Clay,' and other works which they do."

In nineteen of the Mexican States there is gratuitous and obligatory instruction. They have 8,103 schools and 369,000 pupils. The instruction consists of reading, writing, Spanish grammar, arithmetic, the system of weights and measures, "morality and politeness." In addition, they teach in nearly all the schools the duties and rights of the citizen.

John Howard was born in 1726; made sheriff of Bedford in 1773; inspected English prisons, and gave parliamentary evidence thereon, 1773-5, which led to imprisonments. He afterwards visited prisons all over Europe, and died of a fever, contracted in visiting a pestilential Russian dungeon at Kherson, on the Black Sea, in 1798.

Contributed.

The Centennial and Its Educational Features.

No. 4.—Continued from Last No.

Since the last article was written, the great Exhibition at Philadelphia has been formally closed, and must now be spoken of in the past tense. This article will be devoted to a brief reference to the educational exhibits of some of the other States of the American Union.

MASSACHUSETTS.—The exhibit of this State was in the gallery over the east end of the Main Exhibition Building. This State made a very extensive and very creditable exhibit. Foremost among these were specimens of drawing, exhibiting the manner in which drawing is taught in the schools. For instance, some of the specimens showed how drawing and botany are taught simultaneously. Any plant may be selected; then the pupil is taught to draw its various parts, at the same time learning their names; then these are combined so as to form various figures by which the whole is indelibly impressed on the memory, and at the same time facility is acquired in drawing. An object of interest was an album containing photographs and autographs of all the leading historians, statesmen, orators, and other noted men of the State. Like other States, the exhibits here were largely composed of specimens of work by the pupils of the various schools. A prominent object of interest was the exhibit of the Boston Public Library, which contains 100,000 volumes, and is so perfectly conducted that not more than 100 volumes are lost annually.

OHIO.—The exhibit of this State, and of all the other States yet to be mentioned, was in the South Gallery of the Main Building. This State made a very good display. On large sheets, having a white back ground, red circles indicated by their comparative size the extent to which each branch of study is pursued in the schools. It was worthy of note that the smallest circle of all was that representing moral instruction, and though this fact did not seem to speak well for the moral training the pupils were receiving, the gentleman in charge expressed the opinion that other States could make no better exhibit, if equally honest. A good deal of pains was taken to show by means of maps the school statistics of the State. From all that Ohio showed, it is evident that her schools are in very efficient condition, and that her teachers and superintendents are among the best in the Union. The city of Cincinnati made a splendid exhibit, showing 91 volumes of school work, of which 16 were German. In the Cincinnati schools a great deal of attention is given to music. The city of Cleveland also made a large exhibit, two features of which are worthy of special mention. Cleveland has a system of her own in teaching drawing. About an hour and a half a week is devoted to it throughout the entire school year. Pupils begin with line drawing on slate and black-board, and then pass on to drawing of objects. Music is also introduced in the first school year, and continued throughout the entire course. Specimens of written examinations were very creditable.

ILLINOIS.—The exhibit of this state was at the extreme west end of the South Gallery of the