

speculative geology than a natural development of what is called and studied as geography in schools.

So much for geography *virginibus puerisque*. There is, however, a suggestion of something altogether wider, a great and orderly body of knowledge centering about man in his relations to space. Such a comprehensive study might well form the body of one of the courses of the University of the future, standing based upon elementary, physical and biological science, and embracing political economy and ethnography. It is however, an ideal altogether too wide for daily use in a boys' or girls' school, and the conditions of the teaching would be fundamentally different.

One method of teaching I have avoided mentioning, wherein the nominal teacher in charge gives out the portion of the text-book to be studied, and then proceeds to mark registers, toss with himself—it is always a man—left hand against right, for halfpence, or write letters to his private friends. It is really not a bad way if the text-book is well done, and it is—how common? There are some good text-books on the subject now. At the risk of being invidious, one might mention Professor Meiklejohn's. Certainly this is better than really bad personal teaching, this teaching of thousands of pupils all over the world by one clever man. But, for the young at any rate, a living present teacher to work with them, even if he is not above mediocrity, is a far better thing. Besides, logically, one should go one step further. There is no need why pupils should meet together merely to read books. That they can do as well or better at home. And, writing in a paper for schoolmasters, one naturally keeps the schoolroom in mind.

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*The Educational Times.*

ICELAND.—Owing to the Gulf Stream the climate of the southern part of Iceland, with the exception that it is colder, closely resembles that of the north of Scotland, and the northerly districts, though the temperature is naturally lower, are not so wet. Thunder storms are rare, and, strangely enough, usually occur in winter, when the temperature is mild for the latitude. The mean is about three degrees above the freezing point, but there are, of course, exceptional frosts, and variations that in single month will range through twenty-seven degrees. As a whole, however, if the climate of Iceland is neither so hot nor cold as that of any part of North America, its average is lower.—*Educational Gazette.*

MORE EMIGRANTS THAN IMMIGRANTS.—For the past six weeks, at least, emigration from the United States has exceeded the immigration. Not less than 60,000 emigrants left the port of New York in July and August. Last week the steamship Werra, bound for German ports, carried back 900 steerage passengers and left 900 more on the docks because she could not make room for them. The great majority of those who are leaving this glorious republic are Germans, Italians and Finns. They are not immigrants who have "made their pile" and become emigrants to enjoy their wealth in their native lands, but they are immigrants who could not find work and happily had the means to pay for their return passage.—*Educational Gazette.*

Sorrow is not immortal; let us not aggravate our light griefs with ungenerous thoughts. If we have been bereaved of blessings, we have enjoyed them too. To be bereft is the lot of all; to enjoy is not the lot of many.—*Gregory of Nazianzum.*