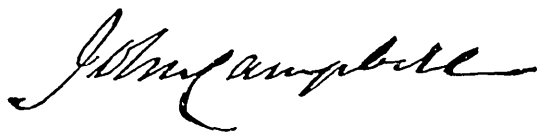


pulpit has acquired the faculty of thinking out a subject correctly and putting his thoughts into good English.

For this purpose Mr. Knowles' book will be found as well adapted as any that I am acquainted with. His lists of the best books for young book-buyers have been carefully selected, and will be of value to those who have not been brought up in libraries. If a boy or a girl with a taste for reading can get access to a good private library of from 500 to 3,000 volumes, and browse there at will, it will do them more good than any catalogued selection. No two minds that are fitted to cultivate originality of selective memory, thought, feeling, and style, can be fed on the same mental pabulum. As the old Scotchman said: "Some beasts are graminivorous, and some are carnivorous, but man, Sirs, is ominivorous." Another Scot applied for a position as librarian, and when asked for his qualification, replied: "I've been amang buiks a' ma life." On further investigation it came out that his mother had kept a small country inn much resorted to by packmen, some of whom were chap-book pedlers of the olden type. It need hardly be stated that the qualification was unsatisfactory. Yet it is a melancholy fact that there are many candidates for literary distinction, whose knowledge of the souls of books is little superior to that of the would-be librarian. The modern book pedler, euphemistically called an agent, with his big, boshy, vulgar subscription book, is the fraud of the century; and ministers, whom he chiefly seeks to victimize, should give him a wide berth. When he is a woman, he is an object of compassion, and twice as dangerous. Give her a quarter, if you have it to spare, to take that book away, lest it tempt you to be an eater of husks, whether these be furnished by N Y. or C. in the U.S.A., or by B. in the Dominion of Canada.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, likely reading "John Campbell". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned at the bottom of the page, below the main body of text.