

Uneducated Minds.

While in the mountains this summer two young ladies came to the boarding house, and I learned they were teachers. They were very intelligent young women; one wrote poetry somewhat. I became quite interested in them, and, though not a teacher, undertook to draw out some of their ideas. Your paper is often in my son's hands, and, knowing he values it, I read it myself each week. I had a copy and handed it to one or them, but she immediately laid it down and took up a fashion journal and buried herself in it.

It seemed to me that both of these ladies wanted to drown their minds every minute; this caught the attention of several and we wondered why this was so. They read light and trivial literature and disappointed us in general. One lady remarked, "That's the way with teachers I have met."

Now some persons have an educational bent, or power to influence. They draw out the good thing in all they come in contact with. I was so affected in this way by a teacher in our district school many years ago; I shall never forget him. What is it to have an educating mind?

In further intercourse with these teachers I found that they lacked interest in human beings as such. To the same boarding house came a young man, a teacher in an academy in the next county; he captivated all by giving us a larger scope of thought. He turned out to be the "star boarder;" he was so different from the young women that it led to questioning, "Why is it?" One evening he gave a talk on Froebel, another on Rousseau. He was declared to be a "born teacher." Certainly he had an educating mind.

But what I wanted particularly to speak about is to ask you, who seem to understand the matter, whether it is possible for persons to acquire this educating power? What a misfortune it is for a child to be penned up four or five hours a day with one who has no power to educate. There is no doubt but the influence of such persons is injurious rather than beneficial.—*E. P., in School Journal.*

Encourage the children to make scrap-books for geographical, historical and miscellaneous clippings. Show them how the books can be made of stiff wrapping-paper without any expense except labor.

I COULD not very well do without the REVIEW, as it is getting more and more helpful every year.
Kings Co., N. B. W. A. T.

Indifference.

As the years increase which measure the time a teacher has been instructing children, there grows into her life a numbing spirit of indifference, which increases in power as the teacher continues in the same line of work for years, and which does much to decrease the effectiveness and worth of the teacher. Every teacher has to war against the encroachments of this influence. Its insidious attack is almost imperceptible at first, but if undiscovered or unchecked grows firmly and assiduously, until it dominates over every other active spirit. Then comes the time when the teacher finds her work to be irksome, her duties onerous, her ambition moribund, and her life a failure. The charm that enthralled her at the inception of her work is dispelled, and the spirit that nerved her to noble efforts and lofty deeds lies dormant.

There can be no more direful state for a teacher to exist in than this. If it becomes chronic, and the teacher knows herself to be powerless to break its spirit, she should have courage to leave the ranks of teaching, and so emancipate herself. But it is too often the case that the teacher thus afflicted is unaware of the cause of her failure, and so she struggles against the octopus within her, and seeks for a reason of her ill-success in other causes.

A thorough self-examination would do much to disclose the true state of affairs, and if once the teacher finds that the dull routine of her work for years has destroyed the finer feelings with which she was equipped at the outset of her career, she is advanced on the first stage of her regeneration. There can be no more inspiring, no more elevating, no more delightful work than that which the teacher performs; and she must see to it that she ever finds it so.

Every faculty of her mind, every motion of her being must be enlisted in her work, and when the love which first inspired the active energies and hopeful spirit is again present, there is no room for the demon of indifference.—*Exchange.*

The Borelli comet, which about August 1st was visible near the Great Dipper, has since been lost to view while making a turn round the sun. About the middle of September it will be in the south, and as an early morning comet will be visible to the naked eye shortly before sunrise.

It is ever true that he who does nothing for others does nothing for himself.—*Goethe.*