

MEMORANDUM

SENT TO

TEACHERS IN CHARGE OF MACDONALD
SCHOOL GARDENS, 31ST MARCH, 1905.

I DESIRE to submit the following for your information and guidance in connection with the school garden work during the coming season :—

SOME WORK IN THE GARDEN EVERY DAY.

I think each travelling instructor should request the teacher at every school to devote some time every day, when the weather is suitable, to work with the pupils in the school grounds and school garden. I would suggest that leaders might be appointed, each with a committee formed of the pupils of the school. These, of course, would carry on the work under the superintendence of the teacher. They might devote from a-quarter to a-half hour every day to such matters as the weeding of the paths between the plots, the weeding of the class beds, the care of trees and the general care of the lawn and play-grounds. I am confident that less than one-half hour per day devoted to this work would give the school grounds and garden a very nice appearance and would put the beds and the garden as a whole into such a condition as to let the children profit to the fullest extent by the weekly visits of the instructor.

PURPOSE RESTATED.

I take this occasion to remind you that the garden is primarily to be used as a means for the education of the children. Incidentally and afterwards it should be used to interest the parents and to let the people of the locality see that the garden has also a practical use, in preparing the children to have greater love for beautiful premises at their own homes, and more ability in connection with the occupations of the locality when they grow up.

In addition to the single plots or beds to be managed by single children or children in pairs, I think there should be one bed, at least, assigned to a class of children as such. That might or might not be one of the illustration plots or beds of which I speak in the next paragraph.