

GENIUS OF ENERGY.

There is no genius in life like the genius of energy and industry. You will learn that all the traditions so current among very young men—that certain great characters have wrought their greatness by an inspiration, as it were—grows out of a sad mistake.

And you will further find, when you come to measure yourself with men, that there are no rivals so formidable as those earnest determined minds, which reckon the value of every hour, and which achieve eminence by persistent application.

Literary ambition may inflame you at certain periods, and a thought of some great name will flash like a spark into the mind of your purposes; you dream until midnight over books; you set up shadows, and chase them down—other shadows, and they fly. Dreaming will never catch them. Nothing makes the "scent lie well" in the hunt after distinction, but labor.

And it is a glorious thing, when you are weary of the dissipation, and the ennui of your own aimless thoughts, to take up some glowing page of an earnest thinker, and read, deep and long, until you feel the metal of his thought tinkling on your brain, and striking out from your flimsy lethargy, flashes of ideas, that give the mind light and heat. And away you go, in the chase of what the soul within is erecting on the instant, and you wonder at the secularity of what seemed so crude. The glow of toil wakes you to the consciousness of your real capacities, you feel sure that they have taken a new step toward final development. In such mood it is, that one feels grateful to the dusty tomes, which at other hours stand like curiosity-making mummies, with no warmth and no vitality. Now they grow into the affections like new-found friends, and gain a hold upon the heart, and light a fire in the brain, that the years and the mould cannot cover nor quench.—*It Mirrel.*

THREE BAD HABITS.

There are three weaknesses in our habits which are very common, and which have a prejudicial influence in our welfare. The first giving way to the ease or indulgence of the moment, instead of doing at once what ought to be done. This practice almost diminishes the beneficial effects of our actions, and often leads us to abstain from action altogether, as, for instance, if, at this season of the year, there is a gleam of sunshine, of which we feel we ought to take advantage, but we have not the resolution to leave at the moment a comfortable seat or an attractive occupation, we miss the most favorable opportunity, and, perhaps, at last justify ourselves in remaining indoors on the ground that the time for exercise is past. One evil attendant upon the habit of procrastination is, that it produces a certain satisfaction of the mind which

impedes and deranges the animal functions, and tends to prevent the attainment of a high state of health. A perception of what is right, followed by a promptness of execution, would render the way of life perfectly smooth. Children should be told to do nothing but what is reasonable, but they should be taught to do what they are told, at once.

The second weakness is, when we have made a good resolution, and have partially failed in executing it, we are very apt to abandon it altogether. For instance, if a person who has been accustomed to rise at ten resolves to rise at six, and after a few successful attempts, happens to sleep till seven, there is great danger that he will relapse into his former habit, or probably even go beyond it, and lie till noon. It is the same with resolutions as to economy, or temperance, or anything else; if we cannot do all we intend, or make one slip, we are apt to give up entirely. Now what we should aim at is, always to do the best we can under existing circumstances; and then our progress, with the exception of slight interruptions, would be continual. The third and last weakness to which I allude is the practice of eating and drinking things because they are on the table, and especially when they are to be paid for. How seldom it is that two men leave a few glasses of wine in a decanter at a coffee-house, though they have both had enough, and the consequence of not doing so is frequently to order a fresh supply; but at any rate, even the first small excess is pernicious. Excess, however slight, either in solids or liquids, deranges the powers of digestion, and of course diminishes the full benefit of any meal. A very small quantity will cause the difference between spending the remainder of the day profitably and agreeably, or in indolence and dissipation.

THE STUDY OF NATURE.

From a recent educational lecture by Hon Geo B Emerson, we make the following extracts:

Teachers are too much limited in their thoughts to dry and abstract subjects.—They need to spend more time in the study of Nature, examining the causes that give strength and vigor to the oak, as well as vigor and spirit to man. Too little is done to make men more manly; and teachers, especially, are in danger of losing their manliness, for want of exercise in the open air. Many examples can be referred to of the training of the ancients in manly exercise.

The forest and gardens are the schools where the first lessons in beauty are to be learned, they may be given in the school room, or the parlor, or by the way. Each mass of trees has its own elements of beauty, as distinct in its character as that of different individuals. Color, form and motion conspire to add beauty to the forests, as all these in infinite variety are combined, as trees are grouped in larger or smaller numbers. Some would have us study the elements of beauty, in paintings. But why not study the originals?

Doubtless the human form and "human face divine" are more beautiful, and of a higher order of beauty than any-

thing to be seen in the forest or the landscape. Childhood, in everything that belongs to it—how beautiful in its perfect trust, its guileless simplicity, its gentleness, its hopefulness, its quickness to enjoy the external about it in all the shapes and forms of life!

The time has come when instruction should be given to children to prepare them for the work they are going to engage in in the world, in a knowledge of those principles of science upon which the arts of farming, gardening and managing trees depend. The better educated teachers should make a beginning and set the example. Nothing so fully combines all the advantages of the exercise which teachers need in the open air, as the study of some branch of beauty. In concluding, the lecturer urged upon teachers the motives they have to form the higher spiritual natures of children. They should see that there is nothing in their own character which they would not willingly have reproduced in its flower and in its fruit.

The number of artificial water works for supplying cities and villages, in the United States, is 82; in the British Provinces, 7. The entire cost of them all is estimated at \$71,172,471. Water stock, as a public debt, is held to be very secure, and there are no water shares found in the market.

PROSPECTUS OF THE EDUCATIONALIST.

"Knowledge is Power."

The want of a periodical on Education, established on a free, enlightened, and common basis, through whose columns every teacher, and friend of free and unfettered education in the Province of Canada may express his views without official censorship, or interested centralisation has induced the publisher, advisedly, to undertake to publish a semi-monthly, bearing the title of the *Educationalist*.

As Teachers form the minds intellectually, and to a great extent morally of the youthful population of our country, a large share of the *Educationalist* will be devoted to their interests and improvement.

The literary articles of the *Educationalist* will embrace *seriatim* all the subjects taught in our Common Schools, and the articles on Chemistry, Mineralogy, Physiology, &c., will not be mere scraps, but a well digested series of easy reference for both teachers and families.

It is the intention of the publisher, and his friends to make the *Educationalist* the best Educational Periodical in Canada, and the assistance of some distinguished scholars and practical teachers has already been secured. An article on Agricultural Chemistry free from technical language will find a place in every issue.

The history of Canada and all matters connected with us industrial, and national developments, will obtain a prominent place in its columns.

The *Educationalist* will be strictly neutral in Politics and Religion, while it will strenuously uphold and maintain the sacred truth that Righteousness exalteth a nation.

Teachers and Superintendents are respectfully requested to act as agents for the *Educationalist*, and forward the names of subscribers to H. Spencer, Publisher, Brighton R. P. C. W. The first copy will be issued as soon as a sufficient number of subscribers can be obtained.

The *Educationalist* will be published at 50 cents a year in advance and if not paid until the end of three months one dollar will be charged.