

that some of the best of the essays on educational topics had to be laid aside. We had an experience of such mis-timed liberality at our own convention last year, which will, no doubt, be avoided in years to come. A good healthy discussion, well directed by an intelligent president, is worth more to the practical teacher than a hundred homilies delivered by the most fluent of orators.

—The question, "What shall the schools teach?" says an American contemporary, was answered in proper form more than twenty centuries ago:—"Teach the boy what he will practice when he becomes a man." The literal interpreter sees in this only the injunction to teach the boy blacksmithing if that is to be his vocation in life. He would thus bring back into our civilization the system of caste. He who interprets it in the light of the nineteenth century rather than of the first, sees in it the injunction to make every child, so far as possible, intelligent and obedient. When this has been done, the battle of life is more than half won. Armed with the invincible sword of *intelligence* and clothed in the invulnerable armour of *obedience*, one is master of the world so far as he has need of it to supply his physical and spiritual wants. This ideal will not be fully realized in the school, it is true, but it is the function of the school to make it possible for this ideal to be realized in subsequent life.

—There is a great difference between the educational standards in the different states of South America. Chili and the Argentine Republic are the most advanced in progress, and are doing their utmost to keep abreast of modern improvements. The Minister of Education of Chili has sent instructions to the Chilean representative at Berlin to take the necessary measures for sending the two Chilean teachers at present in training at the Training College at Dresden, to Naas, in order to follow there a course on manual instruction. Another Chilean—Mr. Claudio Matte—has just returned to his native town, Santiago, from a tour through all the civilised countries in the world, which has extended over five years, undertaken entirely at his own expense in the interests of education, in order to study on the spot the different systems. He has published a report of his experience and investigations, and has opened at Santiago an exhibition of the things, educational and otherwise, which he has collected during his peregrinations.