

provement in reading; too much importance is attached to spelling, which is best learnt by the practice of reading. The universal teaching of drawing would tend to make the writing of pupils better in form, and more legible. Arithmetic should be carefully graduated so as to be well within the compass of the scholars of both sexes, and the exercises should be thoroughly practical, and of a kind likely to be met with in every-day life. The principles as well as the working of the rules should be taught. Children should learn by heart suitable passages of English poetry. Under the head of grammar both parsing and analysis should be retained.

Geography, if properly taught, is a branch of elementary science, and might well be taught along with object lessons, while in the highest class (Standard VII.) the time allotted to the subject might advantageously be devoted to specialising some particular branch of the subject. In the junior classes it may be expedient to restrict the teaching of English history to a general outline, giving in fuller detail the most interesting epochs, or the lives of its most eminent characters, but the advanced classes should devote their time to acquiring a knowledge of the constitution, and of some of the national institutions. Drawing is of the utmost importance, and at no time can it be so easily taught as during the period of schooling. It is impossible to teach singing by note in every school. Needlework, which the Commission regarded as one of the most important branches of a girl's education, should be thoroughly practical and efficient. The introduction of elaborate apparatus for gymnastic exercises into playgrounds is not to be recommended. In towns the best results both physical and moral can be secured by the system of drill recommended by the War Office. Pro-

vision should be made to confer special certificates on teachers duly qualified to conduct physical training, and possessing the requisite elementary knowledge of anatomy. The Commission declares that the following subjects of elementary instruction are to be regarded as essential: Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, Needlework for girls, Linear Drawing for boys, Singing, English, so as to give the children an adequate knowledge of their mother tongue, English history taught by means of reading books, Geography, especially of the British Empire, Lessons on Common Objects in the lower standards leading up to a knowledge of elementary science in the higher standards. Though boys while at school should not be taught a trade, they might receive manual instruction in the use of tools after ten years of age, and should receive some instruction in elementary science which the Commission believes, is only second to the three elementary subjects usually taught.

The necessity of having some form of evening school for the purpose of fixing and making permanent the day school instruction, is spoken of as being self-evident. Hence evening schools should be regarded chiefly as schools for maintaining and continuing the education already received in the day school. The Commission recommends that an adequate supply of secondary schools, corresponding to our High Schools and Collegiate Institutes, should be organized throughout the country, and that increased funds should be provided out of which to create sufficient exhibitions for such deserving elementary scholars as would profit by a training in those schools.

Inspection of schools should be of two kinds: (1) inspection in scholarship, and (2) inspection to ascertain the moral tone and discipline of the school. The Commission is unani-