

can usually be found in almost all countries at varying depths. It should be free from all gritty substances.*

A question having arisen in Philadelphia as to whether the scholars in the Public Schools might not communicate infectious diseases by working, in rotation, with the same clay, a committee of medical experts was appointed, consisting of Drs. McAdam, Morton and Mattem, and after investigating the whole matter most thoroughly they reported in 1895 as follows:—

“Your Committee in conclusion would urge, as a matter pertaining to the health of the children attending our public schools, the most extended introduction possible of the present system of clay modeling, believing that such manual training is in every respect valuable and likely to be followed by the best results to mind and body.”

Thus the Committee not only found no ground for fear, but on the contrary urged the more extensive use of clay, the antiseptic properties of which are well known.

A striking illustration of the hygienic value of clay came under my notice while investigating Prof. Tadd's work in the Roman Catholic High School, Philadelphia. I found one of the pupils working after school hours, and on enquiry ascertained that three years ago he had been given up by three physicians as an incurable consumptive; but he entered heartily into the manual training and art work, and he told me that it had saved his life—the freehand blackboard work with both hands, the mallet-and-chisel work in hard oak, and the clay modeling, giving him such a quantity and variety of healthful exercise that he had not only gained in health and strength, but was able to hold his own with the other pupils in the academic work of the school as well. He loved the manual training work because it had saved his life, and he spent overtime on it because of its hygienic value to him.

FOREIGN TESTIMONY.

Strong testimony to the value of the educational methods here outlined has recently come from Switzerland. It is the opinion of the Swiss delegate who was sent to the Paris Exposition to report on the educational exhibit. Mr. Tadd's work was not represented at Paris, but the delegate had seen it at the World's Fair in Chicago, and knew of it also through publications. After discussing the various methods exhibited at Paris, the delegate frankly says that he prefers Prof. Tadd's to all that he has seen; and adds, in his book, “The Garden of Children:”

“This method has great value: Simplicity of work, balance and symmetry, rapid and marvelous development of the eyes, of the intel-

* A large specimen of clay modelling—the title-page of “McMaster University Monthly,” designed and modelled by my son, Elven J. Bengough, may be seen in the Museum of the Education Department, Toronto. This specimen has not been “fired,” but being thoroughly dried it is extremely hard and durable.