

sity of beginning at the beginning and not at the end.

The child must walk before it can run, and the man who aspires to an acquaintance with science must of necessity have a good English education. We begin with Reading, this gives an impetus to the intellectual faculties, when Penmanship and Arithmetic may follow; and so on until Grammar, Geography, History are reached, then Mathematics and Mental Philosophy, when Natural Philosophy and the elements of other sciences may follow, and so on to prepare the individual for that sphere in life for which he is intended.

All this being admitted, we have before us a guide for the opening and conducting of Mechanics' Institute classes. A candidate for the Book-keeping class should be able to write a good hand, and good English, and if he cannot he should be sent either to the English class or the Penmanship. And so with French and all other classes. This may appear a little arbitrary, but if looked into will be seen to be sound sense. And again, a less fee should be charged to those who enter a second season than for the first, and less for the third than the second, and those who distinguish themselves should be rewarded with honours in some shape.

The certificates awarded by the Board of Arts and Manufactures, of first, second, and third grades, and in special cases, silver medals, offer inducements to some, and might do to all; but local Boards can do more by offering prizes in money or books to the most successful, and then sending forward to the Board such as have passed the preliminary examination in a creditable manner. Thus all who are deserving of reward may rely upon winning it. The latter examination not being competitive, the awards being based upon merit purely, every pupil in a class—instead of one or two only—may obtain a certificate of one grade or another. In the conducting of classes, the first pre-requisite is to appoint good teachers, and then to see that order is preserved. These two are necessary to success, and the latter equal in importance with the former, inasmuch as the efforts of the best teachers in the province may be frustrated unless he can preserve order, and conduct all the proceedings by rules clearly understood by his pupils at the commencement of the session. Moreover, the Committee of Management will find that their object will be attained better if they make their plans known to the students before the session is begun. In this connection we submit a series of rules suggested by our own experience in conducting a series of classes for a number of years. They may be varied to suit peculiar circumstances,

but as a rule they will apply in the majority of cases.

1st. The class fees for the current session are, to members of the Institute, \$2; non-members, \$3, for each class, payable invariably in advance.

2nd. The classes will open during the first week of November, and continue until the last week in March. Each class, meeting twice a week, shall receive forty lessons.

3rd. Each class shall meet and the studies commence punctually at 8 o'clock, and close not later than 10.

4th. It shall be the duty of the Teachers to keep a correct roll of the pupils in their respective classes, and also of the attendance of each; the roll to be called at 8 o'clock.

5th. Prompt and regular attendance is required of all, and those not so attending will not be permitted to compete for the prizes hereinafter mentioned.

6th. Conversation and other irregular and improper conduct must meet with instant reproof from the Teacher; and if he is not obeyed, it may be reported to the Committee, who hereby hold to themselves the right of dealing with the offenders as they shall see fit.

7th. All the materials required in the respective classes may be obtained from the Secretary, at wholesale prices.

8th. The Committee of Management will offer for competition, at the close of the session, a first and second prize in books, to each class, of the respective values of \$5 and \$3. Teachers will report on the 1st March the names of the pupils intending to stand for examination.

9th. Any pupil is competent to enter the lists; but no one engaged in or studying for any of the learned professions, no student of any university or college, and no professional teacher, will be allowed to take a prize.

10th. Those who have taken first prizes in any previous year will not be eligible for the same in any subsequent year.

11th. In addition to the prizes thus offered, pupils passing a creditable examination may, if they desire it, enter for the Board of Arts and Manufactures' subsequent examination, where certificates of merit of three grades will be awarded. This examination is not competitive, each candidate being rewarded according to merit.

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In ancient times the Scotch made raids across the "Border" into England for the purpose of obtaining a store of iron. Now Scotland exports to England and other countries upwards of 500,000 tons of iron per year.