

was once the strongest country in the world, and was the "mistress of the seas." That journalism is an aid to manufactories and commerce is sufficient evidence that it is doing good. Of what use would the large paper mills find for the amount of paper they manufacture daily, if it was not consumed by the editor and his staff, or into what channel would the thousands of men, who are employed daily, turn their labors, if the paper should cease?

EDITOR.

Letters to the Editor.

DEAR SIR,—The Public Schools, it seems, are not good enough for some boys, and they leave them to attend more fashionable institutions. But it looks bad to find that one of those (so-called respectable) boys attending the well known Model School should lower himself to the mean position of *stealing* a couple of packages of foreign stamps from one of his fellow students, an act which really happened to the shame of his school if not to the thief. Let him whom the cap fits put it on.

STUDENT.

DEAR SIR,—I notice that in all the issues of the *School Bell*, or as yet in the *SCHOOL JOURNAL*, nothing has been said about the Certificates of Honor presented to those pupils whose conduct throughout the year has been uniformly good and, whose attendance to the Public Schools has been both regular and punctual. Now these certificates are to my mind what the boys would term "measly," for of all the dingy, antiquated looking things ever doomed to put people in the "dumps" they were the worst. Everybody or nearly everybody have seen these certificates, and have noticed, I dare say, how at one side stands Socrates stiff and starched looking as though one of his nearest relatives had died, while at the other side Newton is represented gazing ardently and longingly at an apple between his toes, and although his face wears a slightly brighter look than that of Socrates, yet he too looks "solemn-choly." Now I should suggest a change of scenery, and for this reason: these certificates are the same year after year and have been for such a length of time that both teachers and scholars are sick of the very sight of them. I do not think that any but the very small scholars feel any pleasure upon receiving one of these ugly stiff looking pieces of pasteboard, and I am sure that even the little ones

have no inclination to ornament their rooms with them as they would if they were got up in a more cheerful style. Of all the certificates I ever saw I think that ours is the most gloomy and dispirited looking. But let us hope that there will be some improvement made by next Christmas.

Yours, etc.,

ANN A. BOYLE,

Wellesley School.

DEAR SIR,—Another paper! Hurrah! Hurrah! What plucky fellows you are to face the world again, with another paper, after the two failures which have befallen your predecessors, the *Bell* and the paper which the Wellesley boys, some time ago, brought out, the name of which I do not know, nor did I hear anything of the paper until the *Bell* came out. But to continue, I wish you every success in your undertaking, and am glad the Ryerson has got hold of the work at last and I hope that the pupils of the schools will deem it their duty to help, support, and maintain your excellent paper, and not do as they did with the *Bell*, which I believe was nothing more nor nothing less than ruined by the pupils not subscribing and taking the interest in it that they should have done. If they had maintained the *Bell* they might have had a flourishing organ by this time, and further, I think they made a great mistake in not maintaining it, as it promised to be a paper equal to many of the papers published by the colleges. Why, look at the editorials they had, the poetry, most of which was composed by their editor and your sub, and now look at the story written by Miss Radford and published in the *Bell*, and you will agree with me that any one of these things, which I have mentioned, was well worth the nominal price of two cents charged for the paper and the perusal of every teacher, pupil and parent. But, alas! the *Bell* is gone! but, hark! now comes another paper, which is not at all behind its predecessor, and if the future issues are as well gotten up as the first one I think it will merit not only the perusal, but also the hearty and earnest co-operation of all the scholars and teachers in our public schools. Just pause for a moment and review the first issue of your excellent paper. First, look at the life of Milton on the third page, the story, and the poetry by your talented sub-editor, and then secondly, look at your editorial department and I think that any liberal-minded person will agree with me that the paper merits the perusal of anyone and the small price charged for it.

I am glad to see that you do not intend to discuss political questions in your columns, but, there is