

## EDUCATIONAL COLUMN.

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Communications on Educational Topics, Reports of Educational Meetings, &c., are respectfully solicited for the Educational Column, and may be addressed to Educational Committee, Box 25, Rock Bluff, Iowa.

B. S. RAMSEY,  
Chairman of Editorial Committee.

### SCIENCE OF LANGUAGE.

"And the whole earth was of one language."

Man, the noblest work of creation,

was made the possessor and ruler of the earth. To him was given the dominion. This implies, in itself,

the power of commanding commands intelligently. It includes the power of designating the objects upon the earth;

and it includes the greater power of intellectual communications between mind and mind. The means by which

this is done easiest and best, is language.

Accordingly, the scriptures say,

that when God had created man, he commanded him, saying, "A phraseology which implies the use of language, and that it was naturally understood by Adam.

So also, God brought the living things to Adam to see what he would call them, and what he called them, that was their name. This is all we really know of the origin of language. But it is enough to characterize it as one of the highest talents of man at once an instrument of reason, of history, and of progress.

Language is an instrument of reason. It is not my intention here to enter into the controversy respecting ancient and modern languages. Language is a universal element, and its great principles can be studied in any tongue which is not absolutely barbarous. It must be admitted, however,

that the most perfect model of language is that in which it can be studied to the most advantage, and which will give the most accurate conception of universal grammar. It is this principle which has probably retained the classic languages in our universities long after the period in which they had ceased to be used, except as a means of education. Assuming that we take the language of any civilized nation as the model or subject for the study of language, let us consider it as a science, by means of which the mind is to be developed. Here the first thing to be remarked is, that this study develops an entirely new class of reasoning powers.

Heretofore we have considered physical science only. In language we begin the metaphysical; for language is in fact the bridge which leads from the physical to the metaphysical world, so far as reasoning goes. So true is this, that the greatest part of the controversies in metaphysics have arisen from the use of different terms to express the same idea, the various interpretation of the same terms, and the want of terms to express a precise idea.

The science of language, therefore, develops facilities of the mind, which would otherwise be dormant. It leads to the designation and separation of ideas independent of matter. It leads to criticism. It leads to observation upon the relations of mind with matter, and of mind with mind. It leads to the classification of objects in terms distinct from matter. In fine, it leads to a higher philosophy, embracing objects of contemplation without and beyond the material world. Let us consider for a moment the process of reasoning which is developed in the study of language. Language, to one who has never thought of it as a study, must appear a chaos of words. It has come to him naturally—his mother tongue—to use these words to designate certain things; but he has never dreamed that they stand in fixed scientific relations to one another, and the whole language itself was but a sort of defined picture of his own mind! He has employed a certain sound, or combination of sounds, to designate objects; and then, by a certain flight of the imagination, he has symbolized certain other things with these. Thus, he has called a species of bird "eagle," its dark color "black," and, observing that this is a war-bird, he has called the war-chief of his nation the "Black Eagle." The first terms were the simple designation of objects by terms applied to them: the last was an abstraction of those terms to symbolize very different objects. The first seems to be the result of a simple impulse of man to name things; the second is the exercise of a higher quality—imagination. From the moment this second step is taken, mind has begun to ascend, although it is only that of an untutored savage. It is thus that language is constructed by the development of the mind, the very soul of man! The higher the growth, the more extensive the elements of civilization, the more extensive will be language. This is the process by which it is formed; a process of observation, of imagination, of reasoning, and of philosophy.

When in a nation of high civilization, this process has been carried on till its language has become various, extensive, classified, embracing all the subjects of human study, and the finest specimens of literature—then the structure and relations of that language become a science; a science which leads us into the realms of metaphysics, which leads through refined processes of reasoning, and contemplates the highest objects of philosophy. In reasoning upon this science, we cannot take it in its perfect state and invert the order of its formation. To the unlettered and uneducated mind, this vast array of words is but a chaos. It is like the material of the lofty mountain; stones, rocks, minerals, earth, water, trees, thrown together, without apparent form or object. But the geologist or mineralogist, like the mathematician, gives everything a name, a place, a class.

Then all these confused objects assume a beautiful order. The reason detects the validity of everything.

The mind is charmed with these new evidences of beauty and harmony in the method of creation.

Language is of later date, and being created, in a greater degree, by the growth of man himself, is more imperfect. But, in reasoning upon it, we take the same mode, and are charmed with the same kind of results.—*Mansfield.*

### CHEESE FACTORY RULES.

The following are the rules adopted for the government of the Cassadaga (N.Y.) Cheese Factory for the year 1873.

We copy them from the Chautauqua Farmer, that Western cheese makers may see the regulations adopted in the East. They will also serve a useful purpose to new factory organizations:

1. The proprietor of the Factory is to make and take care of the cheese, furnish boxes, salt, swathing, coloring matter, box and weigh the cheese, mark and tally the cheese, keep the cheese in cheese drawers, keep the book, and tally the same at the point of delivery, receive the money for the cheese, and disburse the same among the patrons, for the sum of one and three-fourths cents per pound—this includes patrons sending milk five months.

Patrons sending milk four months will be charged one and 85-100 cents per pound; patrons sending milk three months and less than four months, will be charged one 95-100 cents per pound; patrons sending milk less than three months will be charged two and 100 cents.

Each patron shall furnish pure, clean, unskimmed milk, and each one furnishing milk shall strain the same at the time of milking, and if any is reserved for use it shall be of an average quality given by his cows.

5. The milk of each patron delivered at the factory, shall be properly tested once in each month, during which time the results shall be published to those patrons requiring the same.

6. Any patron that knowingly skims, waters or adulterates his or her milk, in any way or form, or takes out the strippings, shall forfeit the entire amount of milk he or she has in the factory at the time of the infraction, and be suspended from the factory for ensuing year. When such facts come to the knowledge of the proprietor, he shall retain the money received for cheese and disburse the same among the patrons in proportion to their interest.

7. No milk shall be worked into cheese while in the judgment of the manufacturer, it will do damage to the general interest of the patrons.

8. Each patron shall bring his milk as often as the manufacturer shall require and at or before the time he may require; and all cans must be washed and scalded daily, and kept sweet and clean.

There shall be a committee of two to test the milk once in each month.

10. There shall be a committee to consist of three persons having interest in the cheese. Said committee shall have power to sell the cheese once in each month, if in their judgment they think best, and shall see that the cheese is delivered according to contract, and each patron shall be of his proportion of the expense.

11. There shall be a committee of three on whey; that committee shall be composed of the patrons.

12. Any patron may take his proportion of whey and dispose of the same as he sees fit, provided he does not commit any wrong in the same, or before he sends milk to the factory, providing he draws his whey from the bottom of the wheyvat; otherwise he will have to stand the loss or gain in proportion to his milk sent to the factory.

No patron shall take away more than two-thirds as much in bulk of whey as he sends milk to the factory. No patron shall feed any of his cows whose milk is sent to the factory.

13. Any patron who takes away whey must take it before twelve o'clock at noon; if taken after, he will forfeit five dollars, which will be disbursed among patrons in proportion to the amount of milk sent to the factory.

14. Any whey committee shall have power to dispose of the balance of the whey to the best general interest and advantage of the patrons in their judgment.

15. That the profit or loss on whey shall be divided or assessed on the proportion of milk sent to the factory.

16. The proprietor agrees to make the whey butter, and furnish sufficient to oil the cheese, the balance to be divided; the patrons to have one-third, and the proprietor two-thirds of the profit. The proprietor is to furnish salt and tubs.

An cheese sold shall be paid for on delivery.

17. The proprietor shall take care of the cheese up to the first of December; if kept later, a fair compensation is to be allowed him.

18. If there be suit brought against the proprietor, the cost of suit on the part of the proprietor shall be assessed on patrons in proportion to their interest.

19. Each person furnishing milk to the factory is to sign the foregoing Rules.

One of our contemporaries has no faith in farmers. He thinks their opposition to railroads will not amount to anything, because there are other and greater grievances than exorbitant rates of transportation. This is untrue, certainly, not one but a political economist of the most progressive type could have made such a discovery as this. There are many worse things in the world than a smoky chimney, but we never heard the bad condition of a drain or the excruciating noises of a hand-mill urged as an excuse for not mending a drain. There are worse ills than a cold, but we were not aware that people neglected a drain until it became a hand-mill, and a hand-mill is not neologism. The tax on transportation may not be as bad as an attack by the Modocs, or a six month's wrestle with the cholera, or a civil war—but were our philosophical contemporaries planted in the midst of a Western prairie where it took five bushels of grain to send the sixth, might they not have made such a discovery as this?

In fact, everything usually kept in a variety of goods, is sold on small profits for cash. All kinds of produce taken freehand for goods, and the highest market price given in cash.

20. Each person furnishing milk to the factory is to sign the foregoing Rules.

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