NOTES ON EDUCATION.

MATTERS OF INTEREST TO PUPIL AND TEACHER.

The Conscientious Teacher Must Look Beyond the Real to the Ideal—Occupations for the Primary Rooms—Educational News and Notes.

The Invisible in Teaching.

The teacher must look beyond the real to the ideal. He must be governed as largely by the invisible as by the visible. The things that are seen are transient; the things that are unseen may be permanent.

Only he who has correct ideals can reach or even approach the best. The teacher looks to the development of character, an ideal thing. He uses the subjects of study and other school instrumentalities as means for securing development of mind, strength of character and culture of taste and judgment. He is able to see in the crude beginnings of life the possibility of a noble manhood. The unruly boy may seem to care nothing for the higher ideals, and may seem to be insensible to appeals to worthy motive, yet the teacher looks through the dross of his nature and sees, possibly, the elements of a good man—the man of character and stability. He does not yield to the suggestions which would lead to the abandonment of all hope for real good. Possibly what seem to be evil elements of character may be turned to good—may be transformed into elements of great power and value as directing and governing forces.

That teacher fails who does not test his work by the standards of genuine success in the real work of life. He looks at the effect which his means and methods will have upon the pupils' ideals of life, and he looks also at the influence which they will have on mature life. In a sense, the teacher lives in the future in that he subordinates all things of the present to the effect to realize the best for the pupil in his developed character. He may frequently ask, Do these methods of instruction and government and these branches of study prophesy the well-being of the pupil in the future? The demands of business life and the demands of professional life may properly influence the ideals of the teacher and assist in shaping the ends toward which the school is directed. Schoolroom work should prepare for life work by the development of medals and the exercise of powers which give skill and ability. The pupil should be put in touch with life forces and drilled in methods which give strength and efficiency.

The teacher then looks outward. He is to meet the preparation of his pupils for their future work. The school must not only keep in touch with the movements of the present and be prepared for its demands, but it must also look into the future, and, by following out the prophecy of the present, be prepared for the development of the future. The teacher and the school must adjust themselves to the accomplishment of ends which the signs of the present seem to suggest. There is such a thing as the correlation of the school to the demands of society and state, and this is one of the duties resting upon educators. The teacher who would serve the generations must look forward as well as backward; must plan for results which must follow influences born in the present and the past. The past and the present in education must be known in order to a just estimate of probable results for the future. There are thus invisible ideals which must stimulate the teacher and engage his best thoughts and most holy aspirations. If he will but wisely "act in the living present," the future will be filled with richer results.—Missouri School Journal.

Occupations for Primary Rooms.

Each recitation or class exercise where the child comes into direct contact with the teacher should be followed by some occupation which is the direct outgrowth of that lesson; an opportunity to give expression to the thought gained in the class. Too many teachers are satisfied if this thought is expressed in written language, and often the children spend more time in writing than is really good for them.

The child, like the adult, needs to objectify his thoughts; much of his thinking needs more than the oral or written form to make it complete. In the primary school we may give the child this opportunity for expression through drawing upon the blackboard, modeling in clay, constructing with blocks and splints, cutting forms from paper, using number by measuring and comparing, and outlining forms with sticks or lentils.

Another phase of desk occupation is that which is done in preparation for the class exercise; an important element in this part of the work is immediate use; the feeling on his part that the piece of work on hand is being done because it is to help in the lesson farther on, adds an element of interest which soon rises to enthusiasm, if properly directed by the teacher.

Suppose the class is studying crystallization; for such study, sugar, salt and alum will be observed and measured; for this small boxes of definite size will be needed. If the children make these boxes themselves there is an added interest because of the responsibility placed upon each child in making ready for the lesson.

For these boxes he will need a lead pencil, foot rule, pair of scissors, manilla paper (medium weight) and a few drops of mucilage or paste.

Directions for box holding a cubic inch: Draw and cut a three inch square; one inch from each corner make a point; connect each point to one on opposite edge with a line. Fold each side toward the center, on this line; crease well. On each side cut through the line to point where two lines cross; lap the corner squares and paste. Shallow boxes previously made by the children will serve for paste cups. A tooth pick answers for the brush.

Four or six inch squares may be drawn and cut by the children, and then folded into envelopes; these will be found useful in preserving material which they use in observation lessons in science.

The telling of stories from history and choice literature has come to be an important part of the work in every good primary school; but this story telling falls short of its purpose if we fail to give the child an opportunity to tell it back to us. One of his best means of expression for the story work is the blackboard drawing. This gives him a chance to do and dare such as he could not feel if he were to attempt expression with a pencil or through speech even. His pictures may look crude to the casual observer, but the sympathetic teacher is able to interpret each stroke of his crayon. To vary this drawing give each child the privilege of picturing a story of his own choosing. Note the excellent oral language work that is sure to come as each one explains to his schoolmates what his picture stands for.

Children love to work; their enthusiasm and intellect are easily aroused and it must be some fault of ours when we are obliged to hire or punish in order to keep them legitimately occupied.—Primary Education.

Teaching the Alphabet.

The easiest and most direct means of teaching the letters of the alphabet is by causing the pupil to print words; for to print words is to break it up into the elements (letters) and from the formation of these elements to the learning of their name, the step is direct and easy. It is often said, and no doubt with much truth, that by means of printing the child will learn the names of the letters almost unconsciously, but here, as in the learning of words, the teacher should furnish systematic help. As these names are purely arbitrary, they must be learned on mere authority.—Educational Record.

Duties of Citizenship.

"The thing we have the most to fear," writes Dr. Parkhurst in an article on "The Young Man as a Citizen," in the Ladies' Home Journal, "is not the depravity and the criminality that are rampant, but the decency that is languid and the respectability that is indifferent, and that will go junketing when a State is on the edge of a crisis, or go fishing on a day when the city is having its destiny determined for it at the polls. Would that there could be some legislative enactment by which every reputable traitor of the sort could be denaturalized, and branded with some stigma of civic outlawry that should extinguish him as an American and cancel his kinship with Columbus, Fourth of July and 'My Country, 'tis of thee.' I speak with full assurance when I say, for instance, in regard to the city of New York, that there is no single moral issue capable of being raised in regard to its administration where the great preponderance of sentiment would not be found to be on the side of honesty as against corruption, provided only that sentiment were sufficiently resolute and alert to come forward and declare itself. The purpose of a campaign under such circumstances is not to convince people of what is right, but to stimulate to the point of action those who are already convinced. That was the entire scope of the rather notable campaign in New York City in 1894."

A Useful Elephant.

A few years ago, when Lord Dufferin was viceroy of India, the Rajah of Holkar paid the viceroy a visit. While he was there he saw Lord Dufferin take up some illustrated London papers which had just arrived by mail and cut them with an ivory paper knife. It was the first time the Indian prince had seen such an instrument used. "Make me a present of that," he said to the viceroy, "and I will give you another." Lord Dufferin hastened to comply with this modest request and the young Rajah returned to his country. Not long after he returned to Calcutta, bringing with him a young elephant, whose tusks had been carved in the most artistic manner, in the shape of a paper knife. This he brought as a present to the viceroy. A table bearing some illustrated papers was placed by a servant before the intelligent beast, who immediately seized them with his trunk, cut them most deftly with his tusks and then handed them to the viceroy.

The Regret of His Life.

Sir William Grove, the eminent scientist and jurist, who died in London this month, never forgave himself for not discovering the spectroscope. "I had often observed," he said, "that there were different lines exhibited in the spectra of different metals ignited in the Voltaic arc, and if I had had any reasonable amount of wit I ought to have seen the converse, viz., that by ignition different bodies show in their spectral lines the materials of which they are composed."

Boston University has bought the empty Mount Vernon Congregational Church, its former tenants having quarters in a fine stone house upon the Back Bay. The university proposes to locate its School of Law in the old church made into something else. Henry F. Durant, the founder of Wellesley College, is said to have worshiped at Mount Vernon Church, and it was Moody's old spiritual home.

There are six American colleges in the Turkish Empire, with twelve hundred students. Seventy students are in training for the ministry.

THANK BRYAN FOR ONE THING. HE HAS SLAIN THE HIGH TARIFF BUGABOO.

LET NO ONE BE SCARED.

As the Hanna syndicate unfolds its campaign tactics it is becoming more and more clear that attempts to bulldoze the working people into supporting McKinley are to be resorted to in all the cities, in the hope that in this way the defection of the farmers from the Republican party can be counteracted. The failure of every small manufacturer and trader who has for years been dependent on borrowed capital is ascribed to the Democratic declaration in favor of the resumption of the coinage of silver dollars, and the threat is boldly made that if Bryan is elected there will be such a shut-down of business to which the present experiments in the same direction will be merely as a zephyr is to a cyclone.

The fears of the workers in shops and factories are to be excited so that their votes will be cast against those of the workers on farms. This is the game of the gang which has put forth McKinley as its candidate for the Presidency, and it is to be played with a recklessness that is commensurate with the enormous stakes at issue. It is a matter of win or lose for the monopolies and trusts fostered by the Republican party in the past. They know that if they are beaten on the platform adopted by the Democrats at Chicago, and by so straightforward, courageous and able a man as William Jennings Bryan, they and their schemes are done for, not only for this, but for all time.

Throughout the country the same tactics are being employed. The farmer, who has heretofore cast his ballot for the Republicans, because the latter deluded him into the belief that he was being "protected," has come to his senses everywhere, and is not to be fooled any longer. He is going to vote against the capitalistic and monopolistic party, which is responsible for all the trusts, syndicates and combinations which have and are still robbing him. Hence the workingman has to be looked to for support for the millionaire ticket, and, with the natural tyrannical instinct of the employer, threats of idleness and starvation are hurled freely about.

Democratic and Republican workingmen ought not to be frightened by these vile tactics to influence their political action. The men who employ them would be fellow-sufferers if they undertook to do what they talk of doing. They can no more afford to have their machinery remain idle than this nation can afford to have England and other European powers dictate its policy on financial or economical matters.

The employers of labor are undoubtedly anxious to keep down the amount of money in circulation, for the fewer the dollars to be had the lower the scale of wages can be kept, while the things that the people must buy can be sold at any price the monopolists choose to put on them. Every workingman is interested in getting as much for his labor as he can, and the capitalists' advantage lies in preventing him from doing this. Let no one, therefore, be scared by this talk that industry will be paralyzed if Bryan is elected. It is only the bluff of a man who is either a willing or an ignorant tool of the millionaires who want to run this Government absolutely and without disguise.—New York News.

Call for Subscriptions.

In response to the appeal recently issued by Chairman Jones of the Democratic national committee for popular subscriptions to the campaign fund, many contributions are now being received by Treasurer St. John, at the New York headquarters. In order to systematize this work, Chairman Jones asks all weekly and daily papers in the United States that are favorable to the election of Mr. Bryan and the restoration of silver to its constitutional use as money, to start popular subscriptions in their respective publications.

Such editors are authorized by the Democratic national committee to act as collecting agents for the campaign fund, and are urged to publish from week to week the names of contributors and the amounts subscribed, and to forward the same to William P. St. John, treasurer national Democratic committee, Hotel Bartholdi, New York city. The Kansas City World has already raised $400 in this manner and there is every reason to believe that a general appeal will prove popular and successful. The Press Bureau desires a comprehensive exchange list, and all editors of Democratic and free silver papers are urged to mail the same to F. U. Adams, secretary Democratic Press Bureau, Auditorium Annex, Chicago, Ill.

Validity of Gold Contracts.

The declaration in the Chicago platform, "We favor such legislation as will prevent for the future the demonetization of any kind of legal tender money by private contract," is, in some quarters, declared to be a demand for unconstitutional legislation by Congress.

A little more careful reading of the Federal Constitution will correct that impression. It is the States that are prohibited from passing any law impairing the obligation of a contract, and not the Federal Government. There is apparently no constitutional impediment to the enactment of a law by Congress by which all contracts calling forth payment of money may not be declared to be discharged by the tender of what Government declares to be lawful money. In other words, the road is clear, should the necessity arise, for a law declaring gold contracts unlawful.

It is true that in the absence of such Federal legislation the decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States have upheld contracts for payments in coin, as it would uphold contracts for the delivery of any specific commodity. It has upheld the California Specific Contract law, and declared it not to be in conflict with the greenback law. The power of Congress, however, has never been tested by an exercise in the direction pointed out by the Chicago resolution. It is very probable that, if the determination of the speculative classes to disturb the financial world whenever they cannot control it, be persisted in, it may become necessary for Congress to interefere in the interest of the great mass of our people. If public attention shall be sufficiently directed to this point the question of the duty of Congress in the matter may possibly enter into the Congressional elections this coming fall.—New York Mercury.

For the 999.

It is safe to assert that among America's entire population, not one man in a thousand handles a gold dollar during the course of the year. If the gold standard meets the needs of America, then gold ought to be in general circulation. The fact that it is seldom or never seen by the masses, shows that as political issue it benefits one where it oppresses 999. Free silver is the issue which meets the needs of the 999. The gold standard has been tested for many years. It cannot mean prosperity or else the country would be overflowing with the latter. What it has not done after a test of many years, it cannot do in the next four. The sensible man will, therefore, dismiss all the arguments of the advocates of the gold standard as upset by the light of experience. Let us no longer stick to the policy which benefits but 1 in 1,000. It is time now to give the other 999 a show.

Taking a New Tack.

Quite a number of the McKinley organs are now repeating with great gusto the false story that William J. Bryan, the Democratic candidate for President, has for several years past been the paid agent of certain silver mine owners at an annual salary of $6,000. And yet when Mr. Bryan's nomination dazed these same McKinley organs, in their desperation to find some method of attack, they alluded to him as the "Pauper Candidate," meaning thereby that he was a poverty-stricken hanger-on in politics.

According to Republican construction, a man who receives the sum of $6,000 a year is fit only for the poor house, and unworthy of notice. This sort of logic will be apt to strike the masses who toil for small wages as a gratuitous and reckless insult. If Bryan is a pauper then America is filled with them, and it is their votes which are going to settle the contest of 1896.

Some Campaign Jollities.

While many men possess the ability to fire out a string of words, the real orator is few and far between. The present campaign is making this very conspicuous. Denied the use of their threadbare tariff assertions, those who mount the stump for McKinley flounder around helplessly upon the question of finance, and the result is that most of them present very absurd figures. In a recent Republican meeting at South Haven, Mich., an orator is credited with saying: "The success of free silver would consign the nation to a voyage over the dark and fathomless sea of uncertainty, without a compass or chart, in a boat of stone, with sails of lead, God's wrath for a breeze, and perdition for a port." And this is the sort of argument which is expected to convert people to the belief that putting the control of America's finances in the hands of the few gold men will bring prosperity to the masses.

Truth and Common Sense.

We will say that there was a good deal of truth and common sense in his remarks. He did not indulge in slurs or abusive epithets in referring to the sound money men, but treated them with far more courtesy than he has received from a good many of them.—Hartford Journal.

HON. J. K. JONES, CHAIRMAN NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE

IDYLLIC LIFE IN JAPAN.

Dainty Little Houses Set in a Rustic Glen.

There is an isolated, aristocratic quarter of the village in the ravine behind the temple, inhabited by priests and superior folk; and the far ravine holds the Momiji, or Maple-leaf, Tea-house—most bewitching cluster of doll-houses in the most picturesque setting ever found in Japan. There is the usual large living room, or office of the landlord, and a general "food preparing" room for the establishment opening on the roadway; but within the gates one finds a deep, green glen, an awful chasm some fifteen feet deep and twice as wide, all filled with delicate, airy branches of cut-leaf maples. A terrible torrent some two feet wide dashes madly down from the mountain side, spreads out into a lake the size of a large dinner table, with a wooden sauce boat moored at one side.

Each vantage spot on the steep bank holds a one, two or three roomed doll house—such dainty, exquisite little toy dwellings, with such fairy balconies, such spotless screens and soft, shining mats, that one hesitates to desecrate them with the clumsy, defiling, destructive appurtenances of the simplest foreign living; and as for himself fitting into one of these midget mansions, it is Gulliver alive among the Lilliputians. Our life in that glen of maple leaves was full of interest, from the moment of slipping back the screens in the morning with some anxiety lest the mite of a glen and its midget lake were not there or real—rolled up over night, and some other charming Japanese drop curtain put in its place—to the last banging of the amados, or wooden outer screens, at night.

The deer were friends and neighbors from the moment of our arrival, coming to drink from the musical fountain jet in our three-feet-square court of entrance, and then to the edge of our porch to bob their heads in well-mannered appeals for deer cake. These pretty beggars, with their lovely eyes, their sharp muzzles, and delicate feet, seemed to know the value of their charms, and having no fear of man, had only to pose a few moments to move the stoniest and most indolent heart to wait on them. It was even more idyllic in the early morning to find some antlered friend, or an equally fearless doe and her tiny fawn, waiting by the lakeside to share our breakfast.

After Miyajima one may well boast of having lived in Arcadia, and each day, more idyllic than the other, puts one in the better spirit for enjoying the rare Japanese charm of it all. The peace of the island is as perfect as its piety, and few sounds but the gently dashing stream and the flutter of maple leaves disturbed our enchanted little glen. One spoke softly, as befitted a place of such perfect beauty. Neighbors came to the doll houses across the chasm, but only the rat-tat of their pipes on the bamboo cups of the tobacco trays was evidence of their presence there.

In that simple, intimate life there were no mysteries, not even of the menu. All the villagers who passed might stop and watch our cook making his highly colored curry for our midday meal; and the peddlers who came to tempt the tea house maids with gay kimono patterns watched his strange concoctions, and sought pretexts to watch our further play with the knife and fork as we sat at feast on our little veranda over the lake. The small boy of the tea house added the comic element, and his morning pursuit of our dinner chicken was always a feature. He would chase the angry hen around and around the lake, and when it fled cackling up the bank, a swift movement of his palm across the lake would spurt such showers of water on the ruffled fowl as might soon empty the whole vast deep and rob the ravine of its choicest landscape ornament. When the tea house staff had combined against the hen, our majordomo would bring the captive to us in his arms and display the fine "stew chicken."

There was a solidity and an adamantine fibre to the Miyajima fowls that resisted ordinary cooking, and we commanded one day that the bird should be divided at every joint, the body quartered, and all kept stewing for three hours during which we expected to be gone on an excursion. Summoned to see if all was right, we found the pallid, uncooked chicken dismembered to the last joint; but the whole puzzle had been neatly put together again, and the bird wound over and over with the closest network of fine spool cotton—a strange travesty on that Gulliver to whom we were always comparing ourselves.—Century.

Late Tomatoes Often Pay.

While the very earliest tomatoes always bring the highest prices, these do not continue long, and the glutted season begins when the crop in years of plenty can hardly be given away. We have often found a ready sale late in the season for tomatoes for pickling at better prices than the best-ripened would bring a few weeks previous. The advantage of this late crop is that the green tomatoes are even more salable than the ripe ones. It is always customary to wait until late in making pickles. After the hottest weather is past, the pickles keep better.

Turnips Among Potatoes.

If the potatoes are not to be dug with a machine, turnips can be grown among them with profit, and generally with better advantage than among corn. Potato tops die down before frost injures the corn, and after the potatoes die the turnips have all the plant food to themselves. But there is another advantage—the stirring of the soil required in hand digging the potatoes develops plant food and kills many weeds, besides removing some of the surplus turnips and giving those which remain a better chance to remain.