

inst and have referred the matter to a lumber dealer in this city, who will doubtless comply with your request.

Very sincerely yours,
W. J. McCONNELL.

OHIO.

The letter from Columbus, O., reads:

Dear Sir—Governor McKinley directs me to say in reply to yours of the 22nd inst that he will endeavor to send you some wood from Ohio for the purpose you mention.

Very respectfully,
JAS. BOYLE,
Private Secretary.

ARKANSAS.

The state commissioner, bureau of mines, manufactures and agriculture, writes from Little Rock, Ark.:

Dear Sir—Your letter 10th March, to Governor Clark requesting a piece of hard wood, etc., has been referred to this bureau for reply. We send you today by mail a very handsome piece of burr oak 1x6 18 in. long, which we hope will answer your purpose. In the name of the governor,

Very respectfully,
W. G. VINCENTHILLER,
Commissioner.

VIRGINIA.

This letter from Richmond, Va., is from a builder and carpenter in that city:

Dear Sir—At the request of Governor C. I. Ferrell I now mail to you one piece of native oak; hope it suits the purpose that you wanted to use it for.

Very respectfully,
JOS. THOMAS.

CALIFORNIA.

The responses from the Golden Gate state are two from Sacramento, one by Governor Budd's executive secretary:

Dear Sir—Yours of April 14th to hand, and have referred your request for a "short history of the place of laurel" sent you to the state mineralogist, J. J. Crawford, San Francisco, California, and no doubt you will receive the desired information in due time.

Sincerely yours,
J. M. TODMAN,
Executive Secretary.

And one from the governor's private secretary:

Dear Sir—Yours to hand and the same has been referred to J. J. Crawford, state mineralogist, Lick building, San Francisco, with the request to comply with same.

Yours truly,
E. L. COLNOR,
Private Secretary.

The third is dated at San Francisco, where the state mineralogist's office is located:

Dear Sir—With this you will receive a piece of native laurel (Umbellularia, Californica) for the table. This is sent by request of his excellency, James Budd, governor of California, in answer to your letter of March 5th.

In using it please put that side up which has been roughly surfaced.

Respectfully,
HENRY S. DURDEN,
Custodian and Secretary of the State Mining Bureau, San Francisco, Cal.

KENTUCKY.

From Frankfort, Ky., Governor Brown wrote:

Dear Sir—Yours of the 18th inst. received. By mail I today send you a piece of walnut timber of native growth. It is not quite as large as you desired, but I hope it will answer your purpose. Let me know if it has reached you safely.

Very respectfully,
JOHN YOUNG BROWN.

NEW JERSEY.

The Governor of New Jersey referred the communication to the state geologist, who responds as follows from Trenton:

Dear Sir—We can send you a beautiful piece of native red cedar, but red cedar is not strictly "hardwood," or we can send willow oak, a typical New Jersey variety of the oak. The express charges will be high. How shall it be sent? Mail will not carry weight.

Yours truly,
J. C. SMOCK.

GEORGIA.

Governor Atkinson referred Mr. Wilson's request to the lumber company at Atlanta, Ga., which replied:

Dear Sir—As per your request of 14th inst. to His Excellency Governor W. Y. Atkinson we take pleasure in sending you by this mail a piece of Georgia curly pine, which we trust will answer for the purpose intended.

Yours truly,
ATLANTA LUMBER COMPANY.

Thus responses and wood from more than half of those asked to contribute the states' and territories' portion have been received already, and it is expected that all will be heard from within a short time.

CHILDREN'S LITERATURE.

At the County Teachers' Institute Saturday Prof. George M. Marshall, of the Utah University, made an address on "Literature for Little Folks."

The professor insisted that a desire and taste for good literature should be cultivated and should be cultivated early. Literature is the repository of the best thought of the best and greatest men. By careful reading a man can be master not only of his own ideas but may turn to his own use the best that has been thought before him and thus can become a man of wider life and greater influence. Too many children come from homes of ignorance. Hearing no good language at home and among playmates, a boy acquires incorrect and gross language. If some children can be interested in good reading, they at once come into contact with a world of purity and nobility of which they have before been ignorant. They, too, are in contact with good language, and can not but be influenced by it.

Parents too often themselves are unable to discriminate between what is good and bad in literature and are pleased when they see their children reading, regardless of what it is that their children are reading. The true teacher is the most potent civilizing influence in any community, and it is not only his province, but his duty, to create, develop and encourage a propensity of his pupils for reading and to direct their choice.

Time taken occasionally from other school exercises to tell or read stories to youngest pupils is far from being misapplied. Let children understand that there are interesting things in books and they will be eager to read for themselves. Have children learn much poetry. Of late years the cultivation of memory has been somewhat neglected. By learning and reciting poetry not only will this important quality of the mind be strengthened, but the child will widen his vocabulary, and learn correct pronunciation,

be made familiar with good pure thoughts and have developed the finer quality of imagination.

As soon as pupils are old enough to do reading aloud, assign a short story to one to practice on and to read to the class. Other pupils will want the privilege, and the stimulus of emulation will then be a tool in the teacher's hand.

Such readings can be made the means of teaching composition and even the beginning of oratory. After a reading ask certain pupils to tell all they can about what they have heard. A story can be given to a pupil to read at his home and at a certain time to be told by him to his companions. After a reading pupils can be asked to write on their tablets one thing they remember, two things, etc., according to their age and development.

A school library should be collected. Many means can be resorted to. Interested patrons can be asked to contribute one book or the price of one book. These books can be loaned out to pupils, perhaps as favors or rewards.

The school, Prof. Marshall said, should be a subscriber to some good periodical, as *Youth's Companion* and *St. Nicholas*.

A little intelligent effort put forth by a teacher in some such way cannot but make the school more interesting and therefore more efficient; and some pupils at least could not help learning the love of good literature and what is good and noble, a love that will extend through life and help raise the average of the community in intelligence and refinement.

The professor distributed lists of about fifty books suitable for use in primary and grammar grades.

Mr. G. M. Mumford made a brief talk on "teaching penmanship," and Mr. John Holt gave a recitation. There will be one more meeting, in the nature of a social gathering, two weeks from today, and the institute will adjourn for the vacation period.

Corporal Sweeney, of Boise barracks, says the Boise *Democrat*, last week walked to Idaho City and back, a distance of sixty-eight miles, in sixteen hours and one minute, deducting all stops, which latter amounted to three hours and twelve minutes. A mounted cavalryman accompanied him each way. His average time was four and one-half miles an hour. He was to do the distance in twenty-four hours, and made it to eight hours less.

This is proving one of the most wonderful seasons of olive-orchard planting ever known in this state, says a dispatch from Pomona, Cal. A year ago over 400,000 small olive trees were shipped away from Pomona for orchard planting, and that was considered remarkable, but more than that number have been shipped so far this season, and there are sufficient orders already on hand to bring the aggregate up to 500,000 trees before June. It is very likely there will be altogether about 600,000 olive trees planted in California before the season for planting closes. At the present rate of growth, olive production will be one of the three most important industries in California in the next decade.