

# THE AMERICAN SYSTEM OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

The following brief statement, setting forth the character and claims of the American public school system, was prepared at the request of the Japanese embassy now in this country, and is to be translated for circulation in Japan. It has been indorsed by the presidents of eighteen colleges, including Yale and Harvard, the superintendents of public instruction of several States, several governors, ex-governors and senators and other gentlemen interested in or officially connected with American public schools, and will be found interesting to readers at home, as a clear and concise exposition of the American system of education:

I.—Education universal. The American people maintain in every State a system of education which begins with the infant or primary school and goes on to the grammar and high schools. These are called "public schools," and are supported chiefly by voluntary taxation, but partly by the income of funds derived from the sale of government lands, or from the gifts of individuals.

II.—Public schools have been tried for two hundred and fifty years. Their estimate of the value of education is based upon an experience of nearly two centuries and a half, from the earliest settlement of New England, when public schools, high schools and colleges were established in a region which was then almost a wilderness. The general principles then recognized are still approved in the older portions of the country, and are adopted in every new State and Territory which enters the Union.

III.—The well-known advantages of education. It is universally conceded that a good system of education fosters virtues, truth, submission to authority, enterprise and thrift, and thereby promotes national prosperity and power; on the other hand, that ignorance tends to laziness, poverty, vice, crime, riot, and consequently to national weakness.

IV.—State action indispensable. Universal education cannot be secured without aid from the public authorities; or in other words the State, for its own protection and progress, should see that public schools are established in which at least the rudiments of an education may be acquired by every boy and girl.

V.—The schools are free, are open to all, and give moral and sectarian lessons. The schools thus carried on by the public, for the public are (a) free from charges of tuition; (b) they are open to children from all classes in society; (c) no attempt is authorized to teach in them the peculiar doctrines of any religious body, though the Bible is generally read in the schools; and (d) the universal virtues, truth, obedience, industry, reverence, patriotism, and usefulness, are constantly inculcated.

VI.—Private schools allowed and protected by law. While public schools are established everywhere, the government allows the largest liberty to private schools. Individuals, societies and churches are free to open schools and receive freely any who will come to them, and in the exercise of this right they are assured of the most sacred protection of the laws.

VII.—Special schools for special cases. Special schools for special cases are often provided, particularly in the large towns; for example evening schools for those who are at work by day; truant schools for unruly and irregular children; normal schools for training local teachers; high schools for advanced instructions; drawing schools for mechanics, and industrial schools for teaching the elements of useful trades.

VIII.—Local responsibility under State supervision. In school matters, as in other public business, the responsibilities are distributed and are brought as much as possible to the people. The federal government, being a Union of many States, leaves to them the control of public instruction. The several States mark out, each for itself, the general principles to be followed and exercise a general supervision over the workings of the system; subordinate districts or towns determine and carry out the details of the system.

IX.—Universities and colleges essential. Institutions of the highest class, such as universities, colleges, schools of science, etc., are in a few of the States maintained at the public expense; in most they are supported by endowments under the direction of private corporations, which are exempted from taxation. Consequently, where tuition is charged the rate is always low. They are regarded as essential to the welfare

of the land, and are everywhere protected and encouraged by favorable laws and charters.—*Chicago Post.*

## Chewing Betel Nuts.

There is a fascination in betel nut more extraordinary than a tobacco passion. The consumption of the latter in chewing alone, in the United States, is a modern phenomenon. An inveterate chewer may have resolution enough to break off the habit, though it rarely happens that an effort is made to do so, as an apology is found for continuing a practice that is positively destroying the foundations of health.

Once addicted to chewing tobacco, to abandon it is an achievement few have the happiness to overcome, notwithstanding the melancholy mortality of men in the meridian of life, who are constantly being destroyed by the subtle influence of that strange plant on the nervous system. Thus sudden palsy of the heart, palsy of a limb, palsy of one-half the tongue, and even instantaneous death, are traceable by physicians to excessive use of tobacco. But the vice of betel nut chewing, however, is still more remarkable. When the habit is established, there seems no retreat. Each victim wears out his teeth, gums, digestion, and dies with an unsatisfied longing for another quid. Betel nut trees thrive in most parts of tropical India, the Indian Archipelago and the Philippine Islands. They grow up gracefully about thirty feet, rarely more than eight inches in diameter. It is a palm, *areca catechu*. Penang is the universal name of the nut in those places where it is produced, hence *Pulo Penang* means a betel nut island. At six years of age the tree commences bearing nuts the size of a small pullet's egg, of a bright yellow color, inclosed in a husk similar to the coconut; within is a spherical nut very much like a nutmeg. Broken, a bit of it is wrapped up with a piece of unslacked lime in a peculiar leaf, the *siri betel piper*, extensively cultivated for that purpose.

The gums and mucous membrane of the mouth are quickly stained a brick red, the teeth crumble to a level with the gums, and in that condition an inveterate betel chewer is wretched without a supply. There are large plantations of betel nut trees in Java to meet the demand for home consumption and distant provinces.

To augment the pleasure, those who can afford it add tobacco to the lime.

A morbid craving for either betel nut or tobacco is a source of immense revenue to many governments. Neither reasoning nor appeals to the intelligence of chewers, who are shortening their days by an excessive indulgence, have ever had the slightest influence in convincing them that they are violating a law of organic life.

Science fails to explain the cause of our intense morbid craving for vegetable narcotics so potent as tobacco and betel nuts.—*Ex.*

## HOW TO PREVENT SPRING DISEASES.

—It is an indisputable, physiological truth that if the instincts of nature were yielded to in the spring, were cherished in her desire to take less and less food as the weather grows warmer, as they are yielded to in the autumn in taking more, a very large amount of the diseases of spring and summer would be avoided. The great practical lesson to be learned in reference to the subject, a question of health and disease—yes, in multitudes of cases, a question of life and death—is simply this: As the winter passes, and the balmy spring time comes on to do nothing to increase the appetite; eat no more than is called for; do not be uneasy because you have little or no relish for your food; eat less and less every day. The best way to increase your pleasure of eating is to change the quality of food; use articles less carbonaceous, less warming; send from the table the pork and bacon, and fat meats, oils, and sugars, and starches, and sago, and the tapioca pudding, and the dumplings, and the rich pastries; get hold of the early "greens," the spinach, the salads, the turnip tops, the radish, the early berry and the daily fruit, and lean meats; pay increasing attention to the cleanliness of the skin, be more in the air; sleep in better ventilated rooms, let your windows be raised high at night and your inner doors left wide open.—*Dr. Hall.*

Anonymous contributor sends us a column of poetry, answering the query, "What am I?" Brevity is the soul of wit. We can tell him in two words what he is—a jackass.—*Ex.*

# 140,000 SINGER SEWING MACHINES

WERE SOLD DURING THE PAST YEAR.—*Scientific American*, June 10, 1871

## The Singer Manufacturing Company,

AT THE

## WORLD'S FAIR,

Constituted by the homes of the people,

Received the Great Award of the Highest Sales! and have left all

Rivals far behind them! As the following article shows:

### "SEWING MACHINE SALES FOR 1870.

The magnitude to which the manufacture of sewing machines has attained is shown by the "sworn" returns (to which anyone can have access) of the manufacturers for the year 1870 to the owners of the leading patents, on which they pay a royalty. According to these returns the number of machines sold by each manufacturer in 1870 is as follows:

The Singer Manufacturing Company.....	127,833.....	Difference.
Wheeler & Wilson Manufacturing Company.....	83,203.....	44,625
Howe Machine Company.....	75,156.....	52,677
Grover & Baker Sewing Machine Company.....	57,402.....	70,431
Weed Sewing Machine Company.....	35,002.....	92,831
Willcox & Gibbs Sewing Machine Company.....	28,890.....	98,943
American Buttonhole & Overseaming Company.....	14,573.....	113,260
Florence Sewing Machine Company.....	17,660.....	110,173
Gold Medal Sewing Machine Company.....	8,912.....	118,921
Etna Sewing Machine Company.....	5,806.....	122,027
Empire Sewing Machine Company.....	3,569.....	124,273
Finkle & Lyon Manufacturing Company.....	2,420.....	125,413
Parham Sewing Machine Company.....	1,766.....	126,067
Wilson.....	50.....	127,333

And several other Companies who sold a few Machines.

It will be seen by this table that the popularity of the Singer Machines far exceeds that of all others, their sale being one-half greater than even that of the famous "Wheeler & Wilson" Machine. This is owing to the fact that the Singer Company have lately commenced making, besides their old and well-established manufacturing machine, what is known as their "New Family Machine," which is selling at the rate of nine to one better than the old style. Their total sales for 1869 were 86,731 machines against the 127,833 of 1870, showing an increase of one half in the latter year.—*New York Sun.*

The total Sales of "Singer" Machines are very nearly

## THREE QUARTERS OF A MILLION!!!

Two Thirds of which were Sold within the Last Three Years, and all are in

## SUCCESSFUL DAILY USE!

And still there are Agents, for even the poorest Machines, who persist, in the most "unblushing manner," in decrying ours, as if it were possible for the "Overwhelming and Rapidly Increasing Majorities of Singer Purchasers" to be mistaken.

We are not so vain as to suppose that these large sales are due to superior business capacity so much as to the superior merits of the Singer Machines, as well as the

## OBSERVATION OF THOSE WHO BUY AND USE,

And are personally interested in comparing the merits of the different Machines before making a selection.

THE

## 'NEW FAMILY SINGER' SEWING MACHINE,

WITH ATTACHMENTS FOR ALL KINDS OF WORK,

We claim and can show is the cheapest, most beautiful, delicately arranged, nicely adjusted, easily operated, and smoothly running of all the Family Sewing Machines. It is remarkable not only for the range and variety of its sewing, but also for the variety and different kinds of texture which it will sew with equal facility and perfection, using silk twist linen or cotton thread, fine or coarse, making the INTERLOCKED-ELASTIC-STITCH, alike on both sides of the fabric sewn.

The only STITCH that is Universally Approved, or is at all adapted to FIRST-CLASS WORK.

Thus, beaver cloth, or leather may be sewn with great strength and uniformity of stitch, and, in a moment, the willing and never-wearying instrument may be adjusted, even by a child, for fine work on gauze or gossamer tissue, or the tucking of tarian, or ruffling, or almost any other work which delicate fingers have been known to perform.

All Machines Sold Guaranteed to give Entire Satisfaction!

## Terms to Suit All!

OTHER MACHINES THOROUGHLY REPAIRED AT REASONABLE RATES!

WE MAKE NO CHARGE FOR CARTAGE WITHIN SALT LAKE CITY!

BEWARE of Spurious Needles, Poor Silk, Twist, Linen and Cotton Thread,

Bad Oil, etc., Which may render the Best Machine Useless. The Singer

Company manufacture their own Needles, Silk and Twist; furnish

Linen and Cotton Thread and Oil—all of Superior Quality—

but which can be relied on only when obtained through their

Principal or Branch Offices.

THE SINGER COMPANY have, for the past three years, been unable to supply the demand for their machines, though much has been done to increase their manufacturing facilities. Much more is being done at home and abroad in enlarging their present manufacturing, building new ones, availing of the best machinery, and the services of the most skillful artisans, in the hope of being able to accept propositions for agencies, where such are not already established, though they are now tolerably well represented throughout the civilized world.

Be Sure to get the Best. Before you Purchase be sure to see the "Singer" at the Central General Agency, Singer Sewing Machine Depot Z. C. M. L., EAST TEMPLE ST., second door South of Eagle Emporium, SALT LAKE CITY.