

## EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

## TO PARENTS AND GUARDIANS.

Kind and indulgent parents—these few plain and simple remarks and queries are addressed to you on behalf of your children and the much neglected cause of education, hoping they will find a place in your hearts, leading you to thought and reflection.

I need not expatiate upon the invaluable gifts God has bestowed upon us in our children, those precious souls, each more in value than a world, of whose high destiny no mortal can form but a faint conception, and whose future glory no pen can depict. The poorest man who possesses them is richer indeed than the millionaire who is destitute of them. All parents, I presume, will concede this point. The question naturally arises, does not the most valuable property we possess, require the greatest care and attention? Do we suppose that if we merely feed, clothe, shelter and provide for the bodily wants of our tender offspring, our whole duty to them, to God, and to our neighbor has been fulfilled? Are "we training them up in the way they should go," and walking in that way ourselves? Do we bring them up in the fear and admonition of the Lord? Do we realize that their young minds are like a sheet of clean white paper, and that the movements and appearances of surrounding beings and objects are like indelible ink, making lasting impressions thereon? Wherever children go, whatever they see, feel, hear, smell, taste or experience day by day, they are being educated—impressions are added to impressions, and the mind becomes like a written copy book. Here is a beautiful and neatly written sentence, the work of a tender devoted parent, or of an earnest teacher. There, alas, is an unsightly blot—a photograph taken on the street (where too many children, unfortunately, are allowed to run) of a being, created in the form and bearing the image of his Maker, now staggering through the street, in a lower state of degradation than the vilest beast, uttering oaths and curses mingled with the name of that Being who gave him existence and the breath and voice which now blaspheme the Deity. The child for the first time sees the unnatural and disgusting sight—the impression is made, and in course of time, repeated again and again. If the child has been trained to reverence the name of Deity, and has only been accustomed to hear sweet and affectionate words at home and in school he shrinks in horror from the scene, and a counter impression is made—one of disgust, abhorrence, and loathing. Let the parents be addicted to any vice or fault whatever, the impression is not counteracted, and the child naturally grows up probably to be similar to its parents. What an awful contemplation! How careful we should be of our words and acts in the hearing and sight of our children!

"Kind words can never die,  
Cherished and blest;  
God knows how deep they lie,  
Stored in the breast."

Unkind words, strife, jargon, unkindness, dishonesty, selfishness, coldness, and all the vices which blot the human mind, and stamp the human countenance are also "stored in the breast." Let us, for illustration, draw a contrast between two children and their parents. The parents of the one reverence the Deity, attend to family prayers, use kind words, and a wise restraining influence upon their child, taking care to send him to school, and taking a lively interest, and having deep concern in the progress he makes there. The school is opened by prayer, the divine blessing is asked upon the day's labors, the kind preceptor has occasion to refer to some little misdeed perpetrated in or out of school, he draws a picture and a contrast, and infuses into the young mind moral sentiments, and reverence for the Divine Being and his attributes. Day by day in the length of the year a restraining influence is brought to bear upon the child's tender mind, enabling him to resist temptation, to avoid bad company and to eschew evil, to love virtue, to increase his little store of useful knowledge, and to cultivate self-reliance.

We will suppose that the parents of the other are so immersed in worldly concerns that they think

they have not even time for family prayer. So many temporal duties must be attended to, that every member of the family must spend his whole time in performing them, from the little girl who can nurse baby up to the big brother who works in the field. The boy who should be going to school, is sent to herd the cow, or two or three sheep, after having been scolded in the rudest manner, perhaps with an oath, for having, on the day previous, allowed the animals in his charge to take care of themselves, while he went to bathe with some more herd boys, he narrowly escaping from drowning, and the animals breaking into a corn field, causing a bill of damages for more than would pay half a year's tuition fee, and the regular herder's bill for the season. The parents say that their boy must do with what education he can obtain in the winter, vainly imagining that all he could learn in school was reading, writing, &c., and forgetting that a healthful restraint is exercised daily upon the passions and inclinations of the child who attends regularly, and not thinking for a moment of the unbridled license taken by the boys who herd on the range or run on the streets with no power but the providence of a merciful and forbearing God to control them and protect them from the numberless dangers into which they heedlessly rush! The boy who has been well trained at home and been kept constantly at school, and who has been obedient and diligent, grows up to be a polite, polished, refined, well informed young gentleman, having a taste for that which is good, noble, and exalting—a blessing to his parents. The other, who has had a street or range education, has learned perhaps to swear, tell lies, smoke and chew tobacco, indulge in intemperance, and other vices, despising wisdom, his animal propensities predominating, his intellectual faculties undeveloped. Parents, let us be anxious to know where our children are; for they are receiving an education of some kind, whether they are in school, on the street corners, on the range, in places of amusement, or whithersoever the young are wont to assemble, and are having impressions stamped upon the mind.

The human mind is truly said to be like a garden, either full of good plants, with but few weeds, or with more weeds than should be, or with the good plants entirely choked. Let us remember that youth is the time to cultivate the good plants, to pull up the weeds, and to stir the soil, until the good plants shall have so covered the ground that new weeds cannot grow. Then we shall have done our duty, and shall be prepared to meet the righteous judge to give an account of the greatest talents belonging to our stewardship, viz., OUR CHILDREN.

## SCHOOL AND FIRESIDE.

## II.

There is no need to point continually to the unavoidable Pacific Railroad as the great regenerator and modifier of the habits, requirements and in many instances views of the citizens of Utah, for the very spirit of their faith, organization, history and destiny necessitated an inward development, which without such an outward impetus might have grown slower perhaps, but would have none the less, sooner or later, attained to the completion of its ultimate designs. Among the means employed, by which it would have reached its end in such a case, is education, one of the foremost, a fact realized and never denied or lost sight of by the leading men of our people. But when we admit, in common with all civilized nations and the general spirit of the age, education to be such an important factor in the development of any people, we must define right at the beginning the true meaning and extent of the term. Education, in the generally approved application of the term, is the judicious and harmonious development of all the physical, moral and intellectual faculties of the child, for the purpose of not only enabling it to make its career among fellowmen, but also to lay a foundation for its happiness and contentment during life. This is correct as far as it goes, but according to our views it does not cover the ground, for a complete education must take man's whole destiny into consideration, and as man is not a mere transitory being, perishing after his time and season like the grass of the field, but is, according to the

firm belief of our people, of divine origin and preparing him, self here for an eternal existence, education among us must take this final destiny of man as the focus of all its efforts, towards which all its various departments converge radius like. Man is not like an animal, one single factor only in the great family of beings, but sustains a great variety of relationships, each of which claim his attention, have their responsibilities and certain characteristics, and to be efficient in one of them does not exonerate him in the least from the performance of the duties in any other or can serve him for an apology for the neglect of any of them. Man must capacitate himself physically, morally and intellectually for his domestic relations; he will be expected to not only enjoy the privileges but also perform the duties of a citizen of his country in its broader, and of his particular community in its more special, sense; he will have to support himself and his by some vocation or business, which requires skill and experience; he has to acquire and to sustain the character and reputation of a man of integrity and honor, what he cannot do without considerable training of his mental faculties—the foundation for all these points will have to be laid by his education. How often do we now hear a father say that it is time his son had some education, when the young man is perhaps already at an age when it is difficult to uproot bad habits and wrong impressions, and more difficult still to mould his mind, so that it may digest teachings which should have been presented to his mind earlier. Every farmer knows that some kind of seeds will prosper only when put into the ground in early spring, for everything has its season. That such parents have no real conception of what education ought to be, is clear enough. When we have had occasion to refer to the misconduct or ignorance of some wayward young men, how often have we met with the excuse that that boy's childhood fell in a time when our people were hard up and not in a situation to pay much attention to education, hence he grew up wild, like a great many others did beside him. This has never satisfied us, for it may be true to some extent, as far as school or book learning is concerned, but that is only one half of the education; the other half, and the more important one, is home education. The education of the fireside, the training of the heart, the manners, the principles of integrity, honor, industry, piety and independence. The foundation for all these must be laid at home in the heart of the child, as it will rarely find them anywhere else, and as we cannot think of any family, at any time and under any circumstances or any place, where these principles could not be taught by precept and by example, if the elders only possessed them themselves, we claim that the fireside must do its share in the education of the child, or else all teaching and training in the school will be an incomplete and in many respects insufficient work. Hence the heading of the present series of articles, "School and Fireside."

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

## WHAT A BOY DID.

BY UNCLE PAUL.

He was only a poor boy. It is the poor boys who always do things. Look over the record of great accomplishments, and see if you do not find that they were brought about by men whose boyhood was poor and discouraging.

He was only a poor boy, but he was willing to work. So he did odd jobs about home, and did them so well and so willingly people liked him and gave him more to do. As he could he went to school. When not in school or at work he read books and newspapers.

He had a liking for pencilings, and drew curious figures on his slate or on bits of paper at odd moments, and the more he drew the more he liked to. His parents thought him foolish to spend so much time in making pictures, but they let him do as he chose pretty much.

By and by an architect—a man who makes plans of buildings, you know, and sees to the carrying out of his plans—advertised that he wanted an office boy. Louis applied for the place. (Louis is not his name, but we will call him so.)

His application was granted. He took the place and did every duty faithfully.

Whenever there was a leisure moment, he busied himself with his pencil, and one day his employer noticed that he drew readily, and set him to helping on a simple plan of some building. After that he helped all his spare time on the regular office work, and out of office hours he studied books on architecture, learning all he was able to of the various styles of cathedrals, churches, public buildings, dwellings and the like.

Other boys tempted him away, of evenings, and taunted him with being stingy, because he never spent money for beer and theatre tickets, and such other things as some boys delight in. But he went on quietly in his own way. What money he could save from his small wages he devoted to buying books, and before long he had acquired quite a little library. What he learned from the books, though, was of more value to him than the handsome books themselves. The pretty drawings they contained he studied over, dreamed over.

After one or two years, there was to be a new City Hall erected in the city where Louis lived, and the authorities having the matter in charge advertised for plans. It was to be a very large and very fine building, and would cost a great deal of money. Louis heard his employer talking about it and saying that he should prepare a plan, and hoped to win the prize of \$5,000 offered.

Louis thought he would try for the prize, too. How he did study and work. In the weeks which were given for preparation he gave every moment he possibly could to his ambitious task. He scarcely slept. Night after night he bent over the immense sheets of Bristol board on which his plan was taking shape. He rubbed out lines again and again. He thought upon his work until his head fairly snapped with thinking. A good many times he was ready to give up, and often he said to himself, "How can I expect to succeed where so many older ones must fail?"

But he worked on until he finished his work. The large sheets were all covered with details of his plan, and all the figures estimating the amount of stone and lumber to be used, and the cost of the whole were correctly made. Then he rolled all up together, in a snug condition, placed his real name in a sealed envelope, marked with a fictitious name, as the instructions said, and waited as patiently as he could for the results.

The committee who were to examine the plans presented, when they met for such examination, found over fifty plans, some of them drawn by the best-known architects of the country. They each gave a careful scrutiny, went through all the estimates, and finally awarded the prize of \$5,000 to Louis Lisch!

You can imagine Louis' feelings when the announcement was made. I will not attempt to portray them. And I will only add that almost any boy can succeed in whatever he undertakes if he will only work faithfully for success.—*American Rural Home.*

## WESTERN NOTES.

Oakland, Cal., is afflicted with thieves.

Seattle, Oregon, is to be lighted with gas.

Sacramento is to have a Board of Trade.

Julius Deter was asphyxiated in a Los Angeles fermenting vat, Oct. 29th.

A connection has been successfully made between the east and west drifts of the Sutro tunnel.

A boy named John Lackley was run over by a freight train and killed, near Marysville, Oct. 29.

Chinamen are not allowed to carry on laundries within the limits of the city of Sacramento.

Sacramento butchers chop up glass with their meat, and the sausage eaters are complaining.

Frank Rosin, charged with rape, at San Francisco, was found guilty of assault.

Another of the men, the third, who robbed the Oregon mail stage Oct. 10, has been hunted down in San Francisco. John Hayes, alias Shorty is his name.

San Francisco street urchins throw stones freely and occasionally hit ladies and other passers by.

John Tippets, a miner at Virginia City, Nev., died from bleeding at the lungs, Oct. 30. A native of Cornwall.

The Virginia City and National Park Free Wagon Road is open to the Geyser Valley for carriages and teams.

For twenty-seven days preceding Oct. 27, twenty-seven violent and sudden deaths had been reported at the coroner's office, San Francisco.

The Pacific Coast Pioneers had a gala day at Virginia, Nev., Oct. 31, winding up with a grand ball, at which 1000 persons were present.

A gang of ruffians set a savage dog on a chinaman, Oct. 29, and the heathen was lacerated in a frightful manner.

The first number of the *Oakland Review*, a literary monthly magazine, will make its appearance about Dec. 15.

Jefferson Cody, shot and killed Wm. B. Cooper, at the Cosmopolitan Hotel, Lower Lake, Cal., October 25.

Labor is in demand in San Francisco. Good mechanics and workmen find no lack of employment.

James Malone, of San Francisco, has invented an anatomical leg, which he claims is far superior to a natural one.

George Hynes shot and fatally injured Andrew Tunney at Cerro Gordo, Oct. 17. It was an unprovoked crime.

At a steam saw-mill at Rock Point, Oregon, a boy named Joseph D. Cary was caught by the main belt and killed.

Captain Clarke and the San Francisco police made a handsome and complete capture of the "tiger," Oct. 29, in Sutter Street.

Benjamin R. Collins, a well known drayman of San Francisco, fell dead in an office, Oct. 30. Hemorrhage of the lungs was the matter with him.

Peter Hanley was walking leisurely along Kearny street, Oct. 30, when a drunken stranger approached him and deliberately bit off his nose.

Rev. Dr. R. A. Paterson, of New York, has closed a series of revival meetings at the Baptist church, Oakland, Cal. The scandal concerning the pastor of the church and a young lady rather hindered the revival business. Things look bad for the pastor.

On Tuesday, Oct. 28, as the stage from Battle Mountain was approaching Reese River Crossing, a man armed with a shot gun, stepped into the road and ordered the driver to halt. This was obeyed. The robber then demanded and received the treasure box, and ordered the driver to proceed.

Mayor Joseph Brown, of St. Louis, who has made three or four trips to California lately, came out five days ago to look at a mine in Amador county which he proposed to purchase. Being satisfied that it was exceedingly rich, he closed the bargain and on Wednesday started on his way back home, official business demanding his immediate attention.

Winnemucca, Oct. 31.—The stage from here, en route to Silver City, Idaho, was robbed forty-five miles from here. Only one passenger was in the coach. Everything was stolen from him, but he had nothing of much value. The robbers stole the stage horses and rode off with them. The agent here has started out several men and Indians in pursuit of the robbers, and there is a good prospect of their capture.

The *S. F. Chronic* makes some rather damaging statements concerning the "Rev." J. B. Duggan, and why he did not publicly renounce the Catholic faith as announced that he would. "Women" and "wife" and not having "a sufficient honor of falsehood" are reported to be the trouble with the "Rev." gentleman. But it is rumored that he will soon come out in a card in answer to the assaults that have been made on his character, and will show that he does not drink on an average any more than the average of Catholic priests.

—Exemplifying duty does more than explaining it.