

THE EVENING NEWS.

Tuesday, Sept. 4, 1872.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

OUR CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS.
The importance for a thorough organization of the public schools of our City must be apparent to every one, who has given the subject even the least attention. We have a daily population estimated at over two thousand, and yet there is not the shadow of an ordinance providing for the education of its proportional number of children. Public schools, to be of the greatest value, must be systematized, and graded on the principle of a division of labor; the special class or division of pupils, in order to secure the utmost proficiency in imparting and acquiring instruction. Such a system can be most effectually secured, only through the adoption of appropriate legislation.

The public school system has become a necessity in American economy. It is now evident to every boy and girl, that every boy and girl, a common school training. Through it, the majority expect to get a "start in life," to be made acquainted with the sources of knowledge, and be initiated into the methods of tracing out the paths of the streams of life; therefore, as the subsequent career shall indicate to be for their advantage, to follow the path of education. Just such demands must be made by organizations on a broad and liberal basis; authoritative supervision by an intelligent board of education, and qualified officers, making the establishment of a good school system and real progress work can never be expected by independent and spasmodic efforts; there must be unity, order and authority to secure the highest attainments in the management way. To obtain these ends great expenditure and heavy taxes are not required. Organization by law-making process, controlled by wise officers, will stimulate the public mind to the nucleus, the basis on which to build the fabric of such an efficient school system. So far from augmenting the costs of our public schools, system in their government, will be a great economical economy, besides securing, in a far more effective way, the ends in view. Do the schools of our city need reorganization, so, where shall the work be commenced?

TEACHERS' CO-OPERATION.

There are but few professors, the number of whose disciples equal those of progressive education, that have not, in their "Pioneers' Unions," or for mutual protection and whence influence wields popular favor with a less degree of force. Printers have their Typographical Union, farmers their Grange, mechanics their Am. and other Mechanics their Societies, all with a view to be of mutual benefit to each other, and as safeguards against the encroachments of the unprincipled, who tend to deprive the skilled and faithful artisan of his prestige, and to flood the workshops with an inferior grade of products. Those among those who falsely assume to be teachers, who object to the introduction of any other branch of education than in the schools of the "orthodox" Dr. H. was placed as to the denizens of an obscure backwoods settlement in the State of Indiana, by a specimen of the genus homo, who had qualifications equal to a teacher of reading, 'Ritin and 'Rithmathe, as he dogmatically stated it, on the ground that his father and grandfather, smart men in their day, did not endorse any other studies and did not care for them. Against this class of pretenders, the true teacher has to contend, and he must use all the moral, legal and physical power at his disposal to uproot these antediluvian ideas among the people, and plant instead the necessity for, and benefits of practical education.

In order to accomplish this result, we respect for ability and skill in the profession of teaching, it is necessary that teachers in union be a union, or at least a protection association, formed. Let the teachers unite, not for the purpose of exacting or demanding exorbitant rates, but that each may feel that he has the sympathy and support of his colleagues in the cause, so that the whole community will be benefited, for good must result from a systematic organization of those who have the education of the young committed to their care. H. C. W.

PROGRESSION.

While some degree of interest is being manifested in the cause of education throughout our Territory, it is highly necessary that a good working party should be organized, aiming at the improvement of our educational status. The principal feature of this system should be drawn from the experience of those who have been devoted to the cause, and those who have made intellectual and moral training a life study. It should have as an object the improvement of schools throughout the Territory, both internally and externally.

I am aware that food, shelter and clothing are the primary requisites in the development of a country and that the growth of industry has brought prosperity, and we have the means and leisure to devote to other objects besides the mere necessities of life.

Why not appropriate a part of it to the improvement of our schools for the cultivation of the intellectual and moral qualities of our children. Let us not be content to follow the beaten path, but that our efforts, when continued, will continue the road to prosperity, and joining the ranks in the cause to seek for the welfare of our spiritual being, high aspirations.

Parents, as individuals, should aid in this work for their children; the government should help, and the people should work in union for the attainment of this worthy object.

What system can be adopted best to secure an desirable an object the highest mental and moral improvement of the community? Should not a special committee be formed for consideration with our wise men, and with those who are able, through their influence, to wield public sentiment. Let it be done.

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