The essayist here divides the mental powers into two classes, oral teaching, which leaves the mind in an inert or passive state.

On occasion, in such a case the snellns an oral or written description of an object is presented, then the mind becomes conscious of an activity exerted in receiving effects. Now these effects, and for that reason are called active powers.

But Mr. Dickinson is at fault in his philosophy; his distribution of the mental powers into “active” and “passive” has no basis in fact. When we say that the mind is now in a passive state, again in an active state, we simply express a well-known fact. In sleep, for example, the mental powers are quiescent, or passive; but on awakening, these powers react upon the impressions received from without, and so become active. This is true, not only of the mind as a whole, but as well with respect to its various modes of activity. We are not always reasoning, comparing, and judging, but at the same time we are capable of performing these mental acts on occasion. All this we can understand, but when Mr. Dickinson tells us that the normal state of some powers is passivity, and of others activity, he tells us what we can not comprehend, because the statement is unfounded in fact.

The essayist’s statement of his theory is curiously bewildering. We have repeatedly attempted to fathom its meaning, but the hopeless attempt to reconcile absurdities invariably produces a sort of vertigo. We can hold fast to one term of comparison till we come in sight of its fellow, when, in an instant, the first shies off past recovery, and we can only discern the outlines of its escaping form. Thus, when considered alone, we can form a very satisfactory notion of “passive powers;” but when we are told that, on occasion, those same passive powers “are made active by means of language,” our head begins to swim as we attempt to unite two mutually contradictory notions. How the mind, with respect to a given object of presentation, can be simultaneously passive and active, wholly passes our comprehension. It is a phenomenon that has hitherto escaped the notice of philosophers.

But we might grant the soundness of Mr. Dickinson’s new psychological theory, and yet deny the truth of his conclusions. Save that it is inconceivable, we know nothing of that state of the mind, when it is at the same time active and passive, and so we can neither affirm nor deny anything of it; but we do deny that oral teaching and written teaching affect the mind in a manner organically different. More particularly, we deny that there is anything peculiar in written teaching, as distinguished from oral teaching, which leaves the mind in an inert or passive state. On the contrary, we affirm that these two methods of teaching are essentially the same, both with respect to the medium of instruction and the organic activities of the mind that are involved in the knowing process.

In the first place, the medium of instruction is language; and whether language be addressed to the eye or to the ear is a purely accidental circumstance. Words, whether spoken or written, are stimuli, and so far as the kind of effect produced on the mind is concerned, there is no determinable difference between a volume of sound and its recognized equivalent, a written or printed form. We do not think by objects, as some seem to assume, but by notions or images which are brought into consciousness by the re-presentative power of the mind. These representations may arise spontaneously, as in reverie; they may be summoned out of unconsciousness by an act of the will; or they may be induced through the stimulus of spoken or printed words. In the latter case, the spoken word is often the more powerful stimulus, but its effect on the mind does not differ at all in kind from that which is produced by its corresponding printed form.

Mr. Dickinson’s statement that oral instruction involves the active powers of the mind while written instruction leaves the mind in an inert or passive state is a sheer assumption, and has
not the slightest foundation either in philosophy or fact. Sense perception may leave the mind wholly passive or far as that organic activity called thinking is concerned, while the seemingly dead words on a printed page may determine the mind to the most intense and fruitful activity. Mr. Dickinson's assumption that a reader's mind is simply passive, accepting on trust the quotations, is astounding. It contradicts all human experience, and is so palpably untrue as a general statement that it must ever be a marvel how a man at all accustomed to serious thinking could fall into so gross an error. Does not the newspaper excite thought? Is the habitual state of the historian's mind passive or active? Do fiction and poetry leave the mind inert? Such questions suggest platiitudes in the way of replies, but the Premium Essay makes necessary a return to platiitudes. The time has come when oral teaching, as a peculiar method of instruction of preëminent value, must be provided with an immovable basis in philosophy; and so a new principle in psychology must be invented to meet the exigencies of the thesis; and the most obvious facts in human experience must be ignored in order to make room for this revised educational gospel. In point of false philosophy, baseless assumption, and bewildering incongruity, the quotation with which we began is a masterpiece.

NOTES ON FOREIGN MATTERS.

The reports of the school-inspectors, printed in the annual report of the English elementary schools, give a sad and discouraging account of the character of the pupils' reading. The children never read readily unless after much practice on a special piece, and then they read entirely without intelligent expression. The reason is that the language of the books is so different from that which the children of the poor learn at home that it is almost equivalent to a foreign language. This seems to prove that a majority of the native inhabitants of England either do not speak English, or else use so limited a vocabulary as not to be able to understand the simple sentences that are, or ought to be, found in the First Readers.

If they were to add to their increasing importations from America some of our first lessons, and could induce some of our latest improved primary teachers to go over and kindle the fire that seems wanting to thaw out the intelligence of these poor yokels, they would much sooner arrive at the good intent of their public schools. They pay their teachers, inspect their schools, insist on universal and steady attendance; and if they fail it must be because of some fault in the school-books, or in the way of using them. There are teachers of freedmen's schools in the South who would make good school missionaries to England.

The whole body of English philologists seems to have come over to the cause of reform in orthography; not merely in support of it but as earnest advocates. Almost every week one finds in the papers which favor this melioration, articles from leading literary men, professed students of language. Professor Sayce makes the point, in an able essay, that it is not really a reform in spelling that is wanted, but a reformed alphabet to enable us to spell as we pronounce; and to enable all readers to see at a glance precisely what the pronunciation of any given word, by any writer, is. Language grows perpetually. We can easily perceive the difference between the choice of words and of lettersounds that our grandparents used and what is current now. Our grand-children will not speak precisely as we do. But a perfect alphabet will be a great bar to such change, excepting as duly ap-proved, and will unify pronunciation far and near; as all will see and know what is sanctioned, and will naturally fall into it, and adhere to it until the decision of an International Academy shall find cause to publish some correction or improvement.

A French paper gives the following as the percentage of the whole population entitled to vote at the public elections in different countries. France, 26.3; Germany, 25.2; Switzerland, 24.2; England, 11.5; Austria, 5.9; Portugal, 5.4; Italy, 2.2; Belgium, 1.8. It is very remarkable that Belgium, which is governed with remarkable wisdom and success, respected by her ambitious and powerful neighbors, is lowest on this list. If there is safety in the multitude of counsellors, it must depend largely also on the qualifications of those counsellors. We saw at our Centennial ample proofs of the eminent excellence of the Belgian public schools.

English spelling reformers are greatly encouraged by the universal support of the philologists who at one time were universal opponents of the measure. Perhaps a still greater encouragement exists in the favor of the present Premier of England—Mr. Gladstone, who favors a reform, but says there must first be full consideration as to just what should be done, and good authority to justify the doing of it, in order to avoid confusion. This view seems to be generally assented to, and a full examination and report on the subject by a competent commission in concert with American and colonial authorities is all that is at present asked.

A writer well says that the love of order which prevails in all communities which use English is a feature that should extend to the orthography of the language and in the great current of progress and improvement it should certainly not be left on the strand as if of little account. There is no other line of improvement capable of so great and world-wide influences for good. As to the prospect—the Phonetic Journal—the organ of the cause in England, has now over 12,000 subscribers, and here, as Prof. March says, "there is a rising hum through all the press, the schools, and the centres of influence, and the air is full of hope.

The present condition of Germany—united and powerful—the arbiter of Europe—retaining a hundred tyrannies and jealousies of petty states only that one gigantic tyranny of despotism which is the incubus and the dread of all the nations around her, as well as of her own people—is in strong contrast with the littleness of her separated states and their wantonly capricious and arbitrary rulers of less than a century ago. The life of Schiller affords instances of old rulings, which made it difficult even for Germans themselves to move about Germany. They were obliged first to get leave from their own home officials, and then run the risk of offending against different and unanticipated laws in each new province entered. When Schiller was about 27 years of age, living in his native swabid, and a student of medicine, his early written poem of "The Robbers" was adapted to the stage in Manheim. He lived in Stuttgart, where the work had not been appreciated. In order to see how it would be received in Manheim where it had been dramatized without consultation with him, he went there secretly and without a pass. He was punished by the Duke (of Wurtemburg) with fourteen days imprisonment, and was forbidden to write on any other subject than that of his proper study—medicine. Yet the Duke was a particular friend of his father, and had shown goodwill to himself. He entreated for leave to travel, but could not obtain it, and finally he determined to take French leave; and
in October 1782, while every one was occupied with preparations for a visit of the Grand Duke Paul, he fled to Franconia, and lived there under an assumed name, and under the protection of the Geheim-Rathin, of Wollzogen, whose sons had been fellow students at Stuttgart. This less than one hundred years ago! Schiller's Wallenstein appeared in 1799, William Tell in 1804. He died in 1855.

THE LIBRARY.

REPORTS AND PAMPHLETS RECEIVED.


Catalog of South Carrollton Institute for Boys and Girls. South Carrollton, Ky. L. L. Rogers, L.L. D., Principal.


Outline of a Course of Study for the Ungraded Schools of Jefferson county, Pa. By W. A. Kelly, County Superintendent.

Catalog of Albion Seminary, Albion, Iowa, for the Academic year ending June 15, 1880. Rev. Wm. F. Barclay, A. M., Principal.

Catalog and Circular of the Branch Normal College of the Areanas Industrial University, located at Pine Bluff, Arkansas, for the year ending June 10, 1880, and Announcement for 1880-81. J. C. Corbin, A. M., Principal.

NEW BOOKS RECEIVED.


We presume our readers know something at least of the earlier editions of this work, the first of which came out in 1855; the second came out in 1866 with an appendix of 10,000 new notices; and the third edition added tables of population as corrected to 1873, making 2,335 pages in all. The present edition is equivalent to a new work. Comparing it with the old we find the type larger, ten lines to an inch in place of twelve; and the titles, instead of being in capitals, are in bold-face letter, so that the text is much more readable. A large number of titles to be found in the old edition have disappeared in order to make room for new matter; the titles dropped are names of small places, or names little likely to be looked for; especially we notice the dropping of names of parishes in England. The growth of the United States has supplied many new names. Many articles are shortened by omission of details and particularly of historical notes; for example, compare in the two Bannockburn, Bar-le-Duc, Bouvines, Havana; some of the omitted matters are desirable, and were dropped, nor doubt, only because one paper cannot hold everything. Of course later information has displaced earlier statements frequently. The preliminary treatise on pronunciation and the Etymological Vocabulary of the old edition we miss from the new.

So much for comparison of the editions. As to the substance of the book and its value, much might be said; but there is no book in the market with which it can be compared or which can be its competitor. First, it is a geographical dictionary of about 125,000 titles, giving some information on every title, and a good deal on the most important. For various reasons, as it is for American use, preference is given to American titles; thus we have on London two and one-sixth pages, but on New York City three and a half pages. New Haven takes about as much space as New Zealand. What shall be given and what omitted under each title depends necessarily upon the judgment of each man in the corps of collaborators, so that inequalities or disproportions may be found, and even inconsistencies; thus the height of Mt. Marcy is given as 5,402 ft. in one place and 5,467 ft. in another. It is to be regretted that the populations are all obliged to be given from the census of 1870.

As to names, it is quite certain that places may be sought for under one title that is inserted under another. Thus one may look for Koen, the German name of Cologne, and not find it; but we find the German names corresponding to Juliers, Treves, Deux Ponts, Liege, and Luxembourg, showing that in important places the native spelling is often given. In Slavonic, Turkish, Arabic and Oriental names, there is a great difficulty in this respect, owing to the varieties of spelling and misspelling that in English represent and misrepresent these titles. Thus in different books we find the Arabic for Jerusalem given as El Khuds, El Kuds, El Kados, and El Kads; the Gazetteer gives the latter only. (Who would, except from the context, guess that in the Arabic for Jerusalem given as El Khuds, El Kuds, El Kados, and El Kads; the Gazetteer gives the latter only. (Who would, except from the context, guess that in this case the reader must exercise a large faculty of guessing, remembering that K, Ch, and Q may replace each other; that t and s or ou and u may be representatives of the same sound; that H initial may disappear (as in Latin Adrian and Hadrian are one); and that in Spanish names X and J are one, and both pronounced like our H.)

Positive errors in the vocabulary are likely to arise from remembering that K, C, Ch, and Q may replace each other; that t and s or ou and u may be representatives of the same sound; that H initial may disappear (as in Latin Adrian and Hadrian are one); and that in Spanish names X and J are one, and both pronounced like our H.)

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Another excellence of the Gazetteer is its giving the pronunciations, which are especially necessary on English names. Who can without instruction tell how our English cousins pronounce such simple-looking names as Calne, Derby, and Islington? In our
own country, is Honore two, three, or four syllables? Where falls the accent in Canajoharie? How without the aid of such a book can one not a traveler or a New Yorker know that Skaneateles is Skan-e-at-less? Such a combination as the Hungarian Szabadzsallas we give up at once, along with Szczuszin, and its other spelling, Schutschuschin; yet they are really not hard to pronounce; they daunt the eye, though the tongue can master them.

We are glad of the historical notes, and wish they could have been more numerous and fuller, and thus more accurate.


The publication of this book completes a plan of the compiler to prepare a series of spiritual songs in three volumes, for the church and choir, for social worship, and for the Sunday school. He has been assisted in the preparation of this last volume by that celebrated and popular author and conductor, Prof. Wm. F. Sherwin, which is sufficient to insure the best of skill and the wisest discrimination in the arrangement and selection of both words and music. The whole make-up of the book is attractive in the extreme. The page is large, the paper fine, the paper, and a positive character. The hymns are carefully selected, and applied to suitable music. Among the hymns are such grand old lyrics as "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty," "Upward where the stars are burning," "O God, the Rock of Ages," and others of that class, from such authors as Bickersteth, Heber, and Faber, and the translations by Neale, Winkworth, Alexander, and Ray Palmer.

There are some of the grandest English and German chorals intermingled with choice tunes from Emerson, Bassford, Sherwin, Palmer, Seward, and other American authors. There are also several fine "arrangements" from Mendelssohn, Mozart, Handel, Rossini, Concone, Mercadante, Oberthur, Arthur Sullivan, and other classical composers, not too difficult for the average school. The book seems to occupy a middle ground between what is too classical on the one hand and too trivial on the other. Its melodies are sweet and captivating, and its harmonies simple and soulful. The book possesses a charm which is irresistible; it is in every respect a work of art, and can not be too highly recommended for the use of Sunday schools everywhere. It is exquisitely printed and bound, containing 192 pages, 273 hymns. Retail price, 50 cents; sample for examination, 25 cents.


Of the first edition of this book Hon. Newton Bateman said: "A careful study of it will render any young man or woman, of good common sense, perfectly familiar with the fundamental principles of Constitutional, Common, Statutory, and International Law, and send them forth to the world with clear perceptions of their rights and duties as citizens, and a love for their country and her institutions, which will be as enduring as life." From the above view it would not become us to dissent. The Government Class Book has been for many years conceded to be well adapted to give a clear and comprehensive knowledge of the principles of government. By availing themselves of the opportunity when new electrotype plates had to be made—the old ones having worn out—of thoroughly revising the work and putting it into new and better shape for class use, the publishers have acted wisely for themselves and done the schools and the public a favor.

A noticeable feature of the work is the prominence it gives to the nature and operation of state governments. This alone commends the book to the majority of the public schools, for it is better to learn about the constitution and laws of one's own state than of the nation. It is a lamentable fact that not only boys but those who help make the laws, or at least vote for the law-makers, are ignorant of the fundamental principles of constitutional law or government, and know but little of their rights and duties as citizens of a commonwealth.

The book is divided into two parts. Part I., Principles of Government—first, by the state, and second, by the nation; Part II., Principles of Law—first, common and statutory law (municipal law), and second, international law. This gives the student a view of all his relations as a citizen.

In the revision the aim has been to make the book conform more to the later views of things, by re-arranging some parts, introducing more system, and adding some of the features which later school-book making seems to demand—such as schemes for blackboard exercises, review questions, side heads, etc.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES AND NEWS.

—During the past week there were paid out from the mints 553,406 silver dollars, against $222,500 the corresponding week in 1879.

—The Republican majority in the Vermont election last week was upwards of 25,000. This is a pretty large straw.

—The Princess Louise has decided to return to Canada, and sails from England on the 11th of November.

—The number of hogs slaughtered and salted by Chicago packers from March 1 to date is 2,359,000, against 1,481,000 for the corresponding period last year.

—Minister White writes from Berlin to deny the report that he is intending to resign the Presidency of Cornell University, and hopes to return to the duties of that position before the present academic year closes.

—It is a curious fact that the Rev. Dr. William Adams, of New York, was the third minister to die within the year, after having been chosen to preach the sermon before the second Pan-Presbyterian Council, which soon meets at Philadelphia.

—The National Board of Health have decided to remove the inspectors from Mississippi River boats bound North on and after the 15th inst., believing all danger of contagious disease is past for this year.

—The New Orleans schools were closed last month to be reopened when there shall be money enough on hand to pay teachers' salaries and other expenses. It is feared that this time will not soon arrive. The city appropriated $200,000 for school purposes this year, and it is estimated that it will require $175,000 to pay the teachers what is already due.

—The University of Pennsylvania will lose $24,050 of the legacies of the late Dr. George B. Wood, the estate not having been found productive enough to pay them in full. The causes are depreciation in the values of real estate and the failure of the testator's cranberry fields to realize his expectations. The university will receive instead of the pecuniary legacy on $135,000 only $42,050.

—Senor Madrias Cabrera, representative of the Bolivian Government, is known to be on his way to Washington, charged with some kind of diplomatic mission. It is believed that his object is to induce our government to take steps to secure an amicable settlement of the war with Chili. Our government, through its Minister, offered to act as mediator some time ago, but without success, and it is understood Senor Cabrera will urge a more pronounced attitude on our part. As Peru was drawn into the war by the short comings of Bolivia, it is considered proper for the latter to take the initiative in peace overtures.

—Prof. Henry Draper has found, from an examination of a photograph of the spectrum of Jupiter, that the equatorial region of the planet absorbs light from the sun, and emits light at the same time. This he believes to be because the incandescent substances of the planet, which produce light, are not hot enough to throw out the more refrangible rays, while there are other materials present which absorb them from the sunlight.
THE WORLD.

NEWS RECORD CLOSING MONDAY, SEPT. 13.

A colliery explosion in England destroyed the lives of upwards of 150 men last week. The majority were unmarried.

Chili has accepted the mediation of the United States in the Peru-Chilian war.

Dr. Buchanan, the bogus diploma vender, has been arrested and is now confined in the Moyamensing prison, Philadelphia.

An alliance has been formed between Austria and Germany which is due, it is said, to Russia last year making overtures to France for an alliance against Germany, which overtures were communicated to Prince Bismarck by Waddington.

The state election in Maine this week has resulted in great disappointment if not a defeat to the Republicans. Instead of a sweeping majority of upwards of 6,000, the vote on Governor is so close that it will require the returns from the remote towns to determine it. The legislature will probably be Republican. So much for "fusion."

A Cabinet Council, under the Presidency of Grévy, in France, has been summoned by De Freycinet for the 18th inst. to decide on the course to be pursued regarding the non-religious confraternities. The excitement among the Republican "groups" continues. The political situation is obscure and uncertain, but changes in the ministry are regarded as probable, and are freely discussed. A coolness undoubtedly exists between De Freycinet and Gambetta. The position of affairs is regarded in political circles as pregnant with storms and difficulties.

Victoria's band of Indians in the southwest has succeeded in giving both our government and the Mexicans considerable trouble. When pursued by our troops they would cross into Mexico, and thus escape. Some time ago a request was made of the Mexican government to permit our troops to cross the border in pursuit of the savages. An answer was received that it would not be agreeable to have our troops cross, but that Mexico would endeavor to aid in the capture of the Indians by driving them back into the United States. The raids continue, however, and it has recently occurred that the State Department that the Mexican Government may demand indemnity for imports from Victoria's band, because they are United States and not Mexican Indians, and have been crossing back and forth at will for some time. It is probable that reinforcements will be sent to Colonel's Grierson and Hatch, in order that they may be better able to guard the crossing of the Rio Grande, and effect the extermination or capture of the Indians. Scouts have discovered Victoria's main camp in Corral-de-Pedras, in Mexico. Various raiding expeditions are being scattered over the states of Chihuahua. Governor Terrazays says he has increased the reward offered for Victoria's scalp from $2,000 to $3,000.

The disturbances throughout Armenia continue, and an insurrection is threatened. The Porte sent a note to the Powers stating that it was impossible to accept their proposals with reference to the Greek frontier, and begging them in the name of justice to allow negotiations to be opened. To this the Porte replied in a severely critical tone, declaring the promised reforms of the Porte inadequate, warning him against seeking excuses for delay, and demanding decentralisation and the restoration of order. The cession of Dulcigno has not yet been accomplished. The French ships which were to participate in the naval demonstration were expected to be arrived Monday, the 13th. The British Vice Admiral, Seymour, seems placed in a very difficult and important position. Judicial management on his part will prevent the exploitation of most dangerous elements now threatened. A misunderstanding has already arisen between the Austrian and Italian Admirals, the latter having failed to salute on the arrival of the former. The affair, however, has been adjusted, the salute being fired next day. The French Admiral has been enjoined to exercise the utmost caution and care. The Prince of Montecorago insists that the Powers are bound in honor to procure the cession of Dulcigno. The naval demonstration is postponed a few days in order to avoid serious trouble if possible. Russia is in favor of taking immediate action against Turkey, but England and Austria advise more moderate action.

HORSFORD'S ACID PHOSPHATE
In Nervous Diseases.

Having used it very extensively, I can testify to its great value in functional derangements of the secretory and nervous systems.

RUTLAND, VT.

CHAS. WOODHOUSE, M. D.

Orders for Grube's Method are coming in from all parts of the country. The little work is highly appreciated by all primary teachers. An order from Lancaster, Ohio, says: "We have used it in two of our primary schools the past year with most satisfactory results. It will be used by all our primary teachers this year."

ILLINOIS.

Joseph G. Wright is the new principal at Altamont.

Other late engagements are S. M. Hestitt, Mendota; Mr. Muffy, Piper City; E. F. Adams, Elliot; J. F. Fish, Ridott; S. C. Ransom, Gilson; Theo. Axline, Wataga; J. W. Adams, Forest.

A. W. McPherson and W. W. Stetson are the new principals at Rockford. O. F. Barber remains in his old position.

PEARLS.

A11 the ordinary associations of pearls are so dainty, and the beauty of the gems themselves is so delicate, that it is difficult to connect with them the grisly dangers that really attend their collection. Yet, according to the Indian papers, no fewer than thirty divers were killed last season by sharks and other sea monsters while gathering in the precious shells; and the treasures of the deep seem therefore to be still as jealously guarded as in the olden days of the myths, when the sea-caves were watched by dreadful scylla-dragons, and the mermen's boards were in the safe keeping of Acocet's sailor-devouring crew. Indeed, beautiful though pearls are, and romantic as are all their traditions, the circumstances under which they are found and collected are so singularly disagreeable that it seems as if Nature had wished to teach man a lesson by showing him under what ugly conditions the most exquisite results may be obtained. To the oyster itself the pearl must be an unqualified abomination, and it is a strange reflection, therefore, that what the unhappy mollusc would gladly be rid of, man imperils his life and squanders his fortune to acquire. In some unlucky moment the oyster has admitted into its shell a grain of sand, and the sharp-edged atom irritates the tender creature—so tender, indeed, that it will only live within walls of mother-of-pearl—and to defend itself against the obnoxious intruder, which it cannot bear or expel, it covers the grain with the substance we call "pearl."

The eccentric eccentrician who thus, returning evil for good, endows with priceless value the vagabond atom, so incomparably worthless before, does not, however, remain content with having rendered its annoyance harmless, but continues to heap coals of fire on its head—continues, that is, to lay on film after film, smothering the wretched grit deeper and deeper in the precious substance, until the speck, once only a grain of sand upon the seashore, grows into the fascinating gem against which divers stake their lives, and which the East and West compete to buy. Rarely, indeed, do such extremes meet, and it is no wonder, then, that table is so full of morals drawn from "the fair pearl in the foul oyster," or that Nature, having given the humble shell-fish grovelling on the sea-bed such a high prerogative of distinction, should have kept the secret of all other gems within her own laboratory. Men failed at first to catch the meaning of her conduct, and looked in nobler creatures—the tiger's heart, the eagle's brain, the serpent's head—for Nature's most precious works; and while philosophers' stones and the silt-and-basil
THE SCHOOL-ROOM.

GEOGRAPHICAL COMPOSITIONS.

I.

MY NATIVE PLACE.

(In your description use the following "outlines," making a paragraph out of each heading. Mark a new paragraph beginning the first line half an inch to the right of the left hand margin. At home, ask your parents what you do not know.)

1. SITUATION. [Name of place; in what state and county; on what river, lake, bay, or other water; near what city or town.]
2. DESCRIPTION. [Size, population, trade, railroads, steamers, ships, mills, factories, farm products, lumber, live-stock, etc.]
3. SPECIAL. [Mention any objects of special interest, such as mountains, parks, gardens, buildings, etc. Close with any interesting event in the history of the place.]

II.

THE STATE IN WHICH I LIVE.

1. Situation and Size. [In what part of our country; boundaries; comparative size; area in square miles.]
2. Resources. [Farm products; live-stock; mines; manufactures; commerce, etc.]
3. Climate. [Hot or cold; healthful or otherwise; snow, rain, etc.]
4. The Inhabitants. [Population; occupations, etc.]
5. Cities. [Name the capital, and two or three chief cities, telling the situation of each, and stating something interesting about each.]
6. Historical. [When, where, and by whom was the state settled, adding any other facts of interest. (Compositions to be written at home, and read in class as a reading lesson. Pupils will question their parents about facts required.)]

III.

OUR COUNTRY.

(Study your geography. Make a paragraph out of each "heading.")

1. Situation and size. [State in what part of the world; area, length and width; boundaries.]
2. Physical features. [Its three great natural divisions; chief mountain systems; five great rivers; great lakes.]
3. Political divisions. [Number of states and territories; sections, or groups into which they are divided.
4. Resources. [Sources of wealth, such as mines, forests, fisheries, manufactures, farm products, commerce, etc., and the leading pursuits in the different sections.]
5. Climate. [Of the northern belt; southern; plateau region; Pacific coast.
6. Commerce. [Chief exports and imports; the great commercial cities.
7. Historical. [When settled and by whom; when made a nation; the people and government.

(Teachers will require the corrected and rewritten compositions to be read in class, as a reading lesson.)—John Swett, Principal Girl's High School, San Francisco.

WHISPERING.

Many teachers are fretted and troubled by the whispering of their pupils. They ask, "How can we stop whispering?" Suppose we put this in another aspect and ask "How shall we prevent their wanting to whisper?" The usual way is to have a rule against it and a penalty. So much is deducted from their standing, or they are made to stay in at recess or after school. But let the teacher give the pupils employment, and then they will not be likely to whisper. "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." It is not well to make a rule against whispering. Let the pupils know that you do not want it done, and then try the effect of employment. At all events do not consider the scholar as a reprobat if he will whisper. Reflect what you would do under the same circumstances; reflect further that teachers are very apt to whisper when together. And if a pupil whispers, it is not absolutely necessary to rap on your desk and look crossly at him. The world will not fail to pieces if one or two whisper each day. Be brave then and do not be frightened if one whispers.

Let us now see how it can be stopped, for a school-room that is full of noise and confusion is an unsightly spectacle. Noise and study are incompatible. Explain this to the scholars and enlist their aid in the matter. Make them find that you want to make the room pleasant; that you do not want them to be troubled and harassed by others interrupting them. These plans may be tried to accustom the children to abstain from speaking.

(1) Ask them to go without whispering for a half hour, or hour, and at the end of that time ascertain who have succeeded, letting them raise their hands. Commend their success; give them a little rest, and let them try another period.
(2) Have a period set apart for speaking, by having a large card marked, "Study Hour," on one side and "Needful Speech," on the other. At the end of each hour turn this card.
(3) Keep an eye on the noisy ones, and give them a separate place to sit, not too much from punishment as to prevent them troubling others.
(4) Keep a record of those who whisper much, and class them as "Disorderly," and lower their standing for good behavior. This need be handled with care.
(5) Detain those who are noisy, and try to influence them by a kind personal talk.
(6) Appoint some of these as monitors.
(7) Give extra employment to those who seek to have time to whisper.
(8) Make a great distinction between those who whisper about their study and those who whisper about mischief.
(9) Dismiss in the order of orderly conduct as you have noted it—saying I will dismiss in the classes—(a) "Those who have seemed to me to be successful in managing themselves; these may stand—James, Henry, etc., etc." After dismissing these—(b) "Those who have seemed to me to be moderately successful; these may stand—William, Mary, etc." After dismissing these; (c) "Those who have had the best success, these may stand—Susan, etc." Then dismiss these.

There are many other methods, but the above carefully applied and followed by close personal attention will generally suffice.—N. Y. School Journal.

MATHEMATICAL DEPARTMENT.

DAVID KIRK, Editor, Jackson, Minn.

AN INTERESTING THEOREM.

A late number of the Canada School Journal devotes considerable space, in its mathematical department, to the discussion of a celebrated theorem, viz.: "If the bisectors of the angles at the base of a triangle are equal, the triangle is isosceles."

The bisectors are supposed to terminate at the sides of the triangle, or on the line which bisects the vertical angle. Prof. Sylvester has shown that this theorem is not susceptible of a direct demonstration, though his conclusions are doubted by some. The demonstrations in the "Journal" all employ the reductio ad absurdum process.

Why a direct proof should be regarded as more satisfactory than an indirect one is not easily seen, nor is it worth while to seek for the former when the latter naturally suggests itself.

PRIME NUMBERS.

The Analyst for July gives some interesting particulars concerning prime numbers taken from J. W. L. Glaisher's report to the British Association giving the number of primes in the fourth million. It is also shown that the empirical formulas for determining primes fail to give correct results, some giving more and others less than the true results.

Legendre's formula is 

\[ \log_A n = \frac{1}{2} \log A \] 

In which the value of \( A \) is taken equal to 1.08566.

COMPLETING THE SQUARE.

Text-books on Algebra usually give two rules for completing the square in affected quadratics. A third rule may be given as follows:

Multiply both members of the equation by the coefficient of the highest power of \( x \), and add the square of \( \frac{1}{2} \) the coefficient of the lowest power of \( x \) to both sides. Sometimes this rule will be found more convenient than either of the others. Every complete quadratic can be changed to a pure quadratic by substituting for the unknown quantity, a new unknown quantity minus the coefficient of the second term divided by 2, and it would be well to require pupils to solve some examples in this way.

ADDITION.

Many persons find it difficult to add a column of figures and obtain the same sum twice in succession. Even mathematicians often find addition an irksome task.

The mind may be relieved of a part of its burden in adding, by the artifice
of placing a dot every 30, or some convenient number, is reached. If, for instance, the first five figures produce a sum of 33, we place a dot at the right of the figure last added, and take along the 3, adding and marking as before. The last excess over 30 is to be added to as many times as there are dots.

An ingenious adding machine invented by a Minnesota man consists of a notched wheel operated by nine keys, corresponding to the nine digits. The key marked seven turns the wheel seven notches, and the other keys move the wheel according to the same law. The sum is finally found on the rim of the wheel.

**PROBLEM BY J. W. PORTER.**

"A body 50 feet from the ground falls 16½ feet the first second, 3 times as far the 3d second, and so on. How long of the time does it come to rest rebounding half the distance each fall?"

Put \( g = 16\frac{1}{2} \text{ feet/second}^2 \), distance dropped 1st second.

\[ m = 3, \text{ ratio for ascending Geometrical series.} \]

\[ a = 25 \text{ feet, 1st rebound.} \]

Then will \( ma = 50 \text{ feet, height from which body falls.} \)

Let \( T \) = time in seconds of falls and rebounds.

To find time of falls we have

\[ \sqrt{ma} + \frac{a}{g} + \sqrt{\frac{a}{g}} + \sqrt{\frac{a}{g}} + \ldots \longrightarrow \text{to infinity}. \]

To find time of rebounds we have

\[ \frac{a}{g} + \sqrt{\frac{a}{g}} + \sqrt{\frac{a}{g}} + \ldots \longrightarrow \text{to infinity}. \]

We will reverse the terms, then 1st term = 0, and last term = \( \frac{ma}{g} \) in series of falls.

Also 1st term = 0, and last term = \( \frac{ma}{g} \) in series of rebounds.

Then by the Geometrical formula to find sum of an infinite ascending series,

\[ \frac{1}{1 - r} = \frac{a}{1 - r} \]

\[ r = 0 \text{ we have } \frac{ma}{g} \sqrt{\frac{1}{(v - 1)}} \]

\[ \sqrt{\frac{ma}{g(v - 1)}} \] = Sum of first series, time of falls.

\[ \frac{ma}{g(v - 1)} \] = Sum of second series, time of rebounds. Adding these results we find the whole time

\[ T = \frac{ma(v + 1)}{g(v - 1)} \]

Introducing values of \( ma \) and \( g \), in this General Formula we have

\[ T = \frac{50(2v + 1)}{g(2v - 1)} \]

Expanding 1st term, and rationalizing and term of denominator, \( \sqrt{\frac{50(2v + 1)}{g(2v - 1)}} \)

Expanding numerator, and multiplying each term of denominator by \( 3 \), and extracting square root of its denominator \( \sqrt{\frac{50(2v + 1)}{g(2v - 1)}} \) 100 = \( \frac{756}{759} \)

Multiplying numerator and denominator by 6 and simplifying terms of numerator, 90 \( \sqrt{\frac{50(2v + 1)}{g(2v - 1)}} \) from which \( \sqrt{\frac{50(2v + 1)}{g(2v - 1)}} = 10.2765737 \) sec. Ans.

D. H. DAVISON.

**ON EDUCATIONAL JOURNALS.**

**The Weekly** takes pleasure in extending a welcome to several new and ambitious contemporaries. With every season there come a dozen or so bearing the initial imprint—[Vol. 1, No. 1]'. Some of them render a good service for a time and then tire of well doing and retire. Others patiently persist and deserve the favor and encouragement of all teachers; though we fear they get but little of either.

"The Very Latest.

The very latest accession to the ranks of school journalism is a four-page sheet called School and Scholars, published by J. L. Thompson, East Lynne, Mo., at one dollar per year. It means well, and if it does not become too ambitious it will do well. Its mission is at present to supply a local want. "The September number of our paper will go into most every home in Cass county." It is edited by a man of experience and considerable ability. The selections reprinted in the first number are noticeably well chosen.

There is a weekly school journal published in San Francisco, Cal., called the San Francisco Public School Record. It is designed entirely for the children in the public schools, and seems to perform its mission extremely well. It deserves and we believe it has a large circulation in that city. Price, $2.00 per year. Eight pages.

Another weekly journal of late origin is the Bradford County School Journal, of Towanda, Pa., now completing its first year. It is a folio sheet, medium size, and modestly assumes to meet the wants of Bradford county. In doing this it must do well, for it is a good county, and school teachers need about the same kind of a paper everywhere. Price, fifty cents per year.

A late arrival in Chicago is Waggoner's Western Educational Journal, a purely business enterprise. It is published with the least expense possible, magazine form, but with no cover, and only sixteen pages. Its editorials are good, though there is little in the paper to catch the sympathy of teachers, and much that is mere stuff. The paper may have a mission, but it is hard to discover it.

We must not forget in this enumeration The Educator, "a weekly educational and art journal," published at Bouvines, Ind., by G. R. Harris, $1.00 per year. It is about the thinnest educational paper we ever saw—published by a white man. Number 13 is dated July 23 on one page and August 14 on another; Number 14 is dated August 28. Two copies are received in a single wrapper about once a month.

The "Young Giants.

The School Bulletin and New York State Educational Journal, of Syracuse, N. Y., is the oldest and the boldest. He walked away with the New York State Educational Journal the first time they met. Our friend Bardeen tried the miscellaneous book business for a couple of years, by uniting his interests with those of a bookseller of that city, but recently the firm has been dissolved and Mr. Bardeen goes ahead with only the School Bulletin Publications and his printing office. If not the "shillelah," the rawhide or something equally effective is kept within reach of his right hand when he "sets down to write for his paper," and we usually see its marks when the paper comes out.

We think the Practical Teacher should be classed among the "Young Giants," for it has shown a remarkable degree of energy and backbone during its comparatively short career. In circulation it has steadily gained from the start, three years ago; and now it has a valiant agent in the field who expects to secure more subscriptions from teachers easily terrifed than all the agents for the eight different editions of the WEEKLY. It is published in a semi-weekly form. It began its career with sixteen pages. After a time it passed into new hands, and to signalize their enterprise a cover was added with an engraved title page. This form was changed about a year ago for a smaller page, and a new departure was made in the make-up of the paper. But Mr. Kimball, one of the publishers, chose the rule and is now in charge of the schools at Elgin, Ill., his former field of labor, and Mr. Klein has courageously gone ahead with his changes. He now publishes once in two weeks instead of monthly and has reduced the number of pages to twelve. The subscription price at the same time is increased from one dollar to a dollar and a quarter.

The Central School Journal, of Keokuk, la., is a fine specimen of Young Giant. Ten county superintendents (that were) in Southern Iowa put $1,000 in the bank as backing for the paper and entrusted its chief management to W. T. Medes, one of their number. He has shown marked ability and so far achieved success. His circulars tell some large stories, but we believe them all. The paper must have a large circulation, and its advertising rates are very low. Its subscription price is only fifty cents a year.

But the giantest of all the young giants is the Normal Teacher, of Danville, Ind. J. E. Sherrill, its editor and publisher, claims a circulation for it larger than he will concede to any other educational journal except one. It is a good journal—full of what teachers call "practical" articles, and is energetically pushed by agents.

The Iowa Normal Monthly has been a good journal from the start. It is not old enough to despise the classification given it, though it resembles the best and most permanent of our state journals in its general character and management. It is edited and published by W. J. Shoup, one of Dubuque's school principals, at $1.50 per year. (Subscriptions taken for $1.00.)

(To be concluded.)
THE STATES.

IOWA.-Mr. C. C. Chamberlain, principal of the Council Bluffs Academy, succeeds Mr. Folsom as superintendent of the State Deaf and Dumb Institution. An Illinois man is in charge of the Lyons public schools, we believe it is Dobins of Champaign.

Mr. Grundy is principal of the Dyersville school. Mr. Grundy is a graduate of the University, and could command fulfillment every distant superintendent of the University.

Mr. Weaver, the former principal, claims that he was committed to his office by the school board of East Des Moines, and that there has not been a change, and who has not attained the age of majority.

The Jasper county institute enrolled 335, probably a larger number than any other institute in the West.

Chariton schools are in charge of Mr. Cotton, late principal at Indianola; Millersburg in charge of Mr. Porter, of Oskaloosa College.

Mr. Fellows, of Knoxville, is principal of the school at LeMars; but Mr. Weaver, the former principal, claims that he was engaged by the school board, and has appealed to the State Superintendent. In his acceptance of the board's election he used some language which displeased the board and they rescinded the appointment.

Mr. N. E. Leach, late principal at North Manchester, takes charge of the Quadroon schools.

Mr. S. L. Hague, a recent graduate of Knox College, Ill., has taken the Prairie City schools.

Mr. Woodruff succeeds Mr. Bingham as principal at Marengo.

An institute for a two years' session opened Sept. 6, at Swan Lake; Sept. 13 at Nasha, Denison, and Lake Mills.

Prof. L. F. Parker, of the State University, has taken charge of an "Educational and Literary" column in the Iowa City weekly Republican, in which he will make University facts and interests a leading feature. He invites correspondence from all who have been in any way connected with the University.

Epworth Seminary opens this fall with the largest attendance in twenty three years. It is twenty per cent better than last fall.

The board of Education of Binghamton, N. Y., where the new Council Bluffs superintendent is from, adopted the following testimonial on the occasion of his resignation:

"In accepting the resignation of Prof. Geo. L. Farnham, this Board deems it a proper occasion to express its appreciation of the services rendered by him to the cause of education in the city of Binghamton."

"On the unanimous invitation of the Board of Education of this city, Prof. Farnham accepted the position of Superintendent of schools about eleven years ago, and for six years devoted his untiring energies to the building up of the school system of the city, and to the promotion of sound educational principles. The progress made in this work is manifest in our excellent school buildings, (the Oak street school building eleven years ago being the best in the city,) in improved methods of instruction now being recognized and adopted by our best educators as the true methods, and in our present system of school organization. For the past two years he has been Principal of the Carroll street school, and his labors here have been crowned with merited success. Having accepted a position of Superintendent of schools in a distant city, the thanks of this Board are hereby extended to him for the valuable services rendered, for the faithful and conscientious discharge of every known duty, and for the self-sacrificing abnegation evinced in the fulfillment of the great trusts committed to his care."

MICHIGAN.-Miss Cornelia Eddy, of Hartford, Conn., has taken charge of the Holyoke Female Seminary at Kalamazoo, the entire debt of more than $18,000 having been secured.

Pratt D. A. Allen, of Quincy, has had his salary increased $100; he now receives $800. The board has purchased $150 worth of apparatus for the school, and the best of sentiment prevails. Mr. Allen is a fine scholar—a graduate of the University, and could command a much larger salary in other business. The schools will do well to keep him.

Three ladies voted at the annual school meeting in Ann Arbor last week. The Ann Arbor school census shows that there are 2,676 children of school age in the city, an increase of 163 for the year.

Supt. W. S. Perry's report of the Ann Arbor public schools is a valuable document. The tuition from non-residents last year amounted to $3,687.50; cost of superintendence and instruction, $24,760; cost per capita for instruction, high school, $20.30; grammar department, $12.39; primary, $7.82; per cent of attendance, 95.5. Supt. Perry says: "The tendency of present thought and practice is to simplify and intensify—fewer branches and more drill on each." He adds: "Probably it must be expected that no inconsiderable portion of society will forever mistake, in education, between quantity of book work and actual requirements, between getting over a course of study and mental growth."

Miss Frederika Perry and Miss Ellen Martin, the only ladies' law firm in Chicago, are both graduates of the law department of the University of Michigan. Miss Perry is said to be a worthy example of the successful western woman, quiet, but "mighty in earnest."

The following are the teachers in the Chelsea school for the ensuing year: Prof. F. M. Parker, Miss Kister, Miss Foote, Miss Depew, Miss Jennie Hogg, Miss Dora Harrington, and Mrs. Helen Miller.

The crowded condition of the Battle Creek high school has made it necessary to engage an additional teacher. Seventy new volumes have just been added to the library.

The Kalamazoo school board are struggling to find room for the pupils.

Mr. E. B. Fairfield, Jr., Tecumseh, has started off nicely in his new field of labor.

Miss Anna A. Nichols, of Ann Arbor, has just been added to the faculty of the Ann Arbor school of music.

Examinations of applicants for admission to the University will begin September 23.

Prof. W. S. Payne, of the University, has charge of the Adrian public schools during the absence of Supt. Cocker, who has been spending his vacation in Europe.

There are 235 students in attendance at Battle Creek College.

Newspapers and magazines take the place of readers in the Marshall schools.

Supt. E. B. Bailey, Jr., Tecumseh, has started off nicely in his new field of labor.

The Michigan Military Academy reopened yesterday.

The Michigan Military Academy reopened yesterday.

510 school children in Dowagiac; 5,411 school children in Bay City—an increase of 1,200 in a year.

On September 25, the people of Big Rapids are to vote on the question of raising $1,200 for a high school building.

INDIANA.—142 more pupils were enrolled in the South Bend schools at the opening this year than last. The enrollment in the high school, C. A. Burlett, Principal, was 107.

MINNESOTA.—The wife of Prof. B. M. Reynolds was suddenly attacked, about four weeks since, with a severe paralytic stroke. She is now slowly recovering. The Professor intends to move his family this fall from Lakeville, where they have resided constantly for several years, to Northfield, Minn., where he is in charge of the high school.—Wisconsin Journal of Education.

Mr. George W. Hatch, principal at Brownsdale, is a graduate of Ripon College, class of '80.

Mr. A. R. Ames, formerly superintendent of the first district of Dane county, Wisconsin, is principal of the high school at Detroit.

Mr. W. B. Waterbury, late principal at Hampton, Iowa, is in charge of the schools at Waseca. The Herald of that place says: "With an examination of ten questions in each of fourteen branches the average standing of Prof. Waterbury is 97%."

The state debt is $156,000; the school fund amounts to $4,000,000.

NEBRASKA.—George B. Lane, of St. Louis, is the new superintendent of the Omaha schools. His presence thus far has impressed the Omaha people very favorably. With a new superintendent and a new high school principal, a marked improvement in the public schools is prophesied. Supt. Lane's salary is $3,400.

The following are a few of the graded school principals employed in this state: Geneva, Mr. Caldwell; Harvard, F. L. Foreman; Kearney, W. I. Brown; Tecumseh, W. C. Mayer; Humboldt, Mr. Smuts; Papillion, Mr. Roche; Sidney, Mr. Brenton; Syracuse, J. W. Swan; Central City, Mr. Baker; St. Paul, Miss Loder; Hebron, Mr. Dusenbery; Falls City, Mr. Rich; Red Cloud, Mr. Funk; Fairbury, C. D. Hubbell; Stelle City, Agnes Melville; Calhoun, R. L. Livingston; Bell Creek, Mrs. R. E. Lord.

T. D. Brooks, of Conway, O., has taken charge of the schools at Blair.

Kearney's new school building is to cost from $20,000 to $25,000.

A. Farwell has opened a classical academy at Ashland. An academy has
also been opened in Hastings, E. G. Kimball and Minnie Kimball are in charge. At Gibbon, the Baptist academy will be in charge of Rev. G. W. Reed.

Supt. W. W. W. Jones, of Lincoln, is the Republican nominee for State Superintendent.

WISCONSIN. — At the examination for state certificates last August the successful candidates were J. B. Este, of Milton Junction; Miss Mary Lantry, of Manitowoc; Miss Harriet Salisbury, of Whitewater; and Edwin Auerwald, of Chicago. Mr. Auerwald has been engaged as principal of the Manitowoc high school. The result of his examination was creditable in the highest degree.

Late engagements in the public schools are the following: Beaver Dam T. B. Pray, of Tomah; Tomah, Mr. Hinkley, of Dixon, Ill.; Lancaster and county from a very low position to the first rank in the state. We of school work made during the ensuing year in his county.

There are the county of Manitowoc, number. Superintendent of schools in one
dred

It represents the college as well attended this year and everything...

The new school building at Cylon, will cost $1,375 exclusive of furniture, apparatus, ventilators, etc., all of which are to be furnished new.

Supt. Jones, of Rock county, announces that there will be an exhibition of school work made during the ensuing year in his county.

Prof. C. W. Roby has taken charge of the middle school in his district No.

Salisbury is to take charge of the class the last two weeks.

The Kenosha Telegraph unanimously advises the union of city and county superintendent of schools in one person. As defense for such advice it cites the county of Manitowoc, "with its 40,000 inhabitants and more than a hundred schools.

"It says "the result has been to raise the schools of the city and county from a very low position to the first rank in the state." We know that there are good schools in Manitowoc, but they were not in a "very low position" before the county superintendency was imposed upon one of the city principal. We can not see how such doubling up of the work will benefit the schools. We shall be glad to hear from Superintendent-Principal Viehahn on the subject.

Hosen Barnes, who has been editing the Kenosha Telegraph for a few months past, has accepted the principalship of the River Falls high school, and will enter upon his duties there October 1.

Appleton's Cyclopedia and other valuable books were recently stolen from the high school room of the Kenosha public school.

School district No. 11, of Wheatland, will erect a $500 school-house. This will make four new school houses for Wheatland this summer.

The fall term of the Green County Normal school is now in session at Princeton; it commenced Monday, August 23, to continue six weeks. Prof. Salisbury is to take charge of the class the last two weeks.

OHIO. — Special Telegram to The Inter Ocean. — Washington, Sept. 12. — Miss Annie B. Irish has been elected Lecturer on Modern Literature in the University of Wooster, Ohio. This appointment is made having in view the permanent connection of Miss Irish with this institution in some one of its chairs of languages so soon as she shall have completed her engagements in Washington. She has been in charge of the foreign correspondence of the Interior Department during this administration as the translator, and is now engaged in addition upon the very important work of "classification of the library. The officials of the department will not consent to her departure until she has completed this task, which will take about two months. Miss Irish is peculiarly fitted for this work, having devoted her life to the mastery of modern languages, being a master of French, German, and Scandinavian, and more or less versed in the Spanish and Italian.

In this connection it may be appropriate to correct a rumor that has been going the rounds of the press for some months to the effect that she was engaged to be married to Secretary Schurz. It is authoritatively stated that there is no foundation for such a report, nor never has been.

ILLINOIS. — McGregor has taken the schools at LaSalle and has a grand field for work this year.

Prin. C. I. Parker, of Chicago, is obliged to wait till nearly the first of October before opening his school, on account of the erection of a new school building. Meanwhile he is prosecuting an engagement entered into early in vacation—selling Rand & McNally's maps to schools. Already many of the leading schools of the state have ordered one or more of the maps, and Mr. Parker is now about giving others an opportunity.

The arrangements for the meeting of the State Teachers' Association Dec. 28, 29, 30 are already completed. The committee, consisting of P. R. Walker, Rochelle; C. I. Parker, Chicago; and S. E. Harwood, Carbondale, have decided to hold the meeting in Springfield. One and one third rates have been obtained from railroads. The Lindell Hotel will charge two dollars a day, other hotels $1.50. Tuesday evening Col. Parker of Quincy will lecture before the association on Supervision of Schools; Wednesday evening Supt. Peaslee, of Cincinnati, will lecture on Literature. A new feature of this meeting will be the music, which will be under the direction of Supt. A. R. Sabin, of Lyke Forest. A quartette of singers will accompany Mr. Sabin from his home. Another feature will be the announcements—it having been arranged so that with only one exception each half-day session will be devoted to a single paper. Springfield is a good place and everything is favorable for a good attendance and an enjoyable time.

E. J. James, Principal of the Normal University High School, is taking his place among the leading educators of the country. At the Put-in-Bay meeting of Western Normal Workers he presented a paper on the relation of academic to strictly professional work, and was made secretary of the association.

At a recent Macon county teachers' examination where there were one hundred and twenty applicants, all but one of those who take no education journals were among the failures. Is there a lesson to learn from this? Cairo school year does not begin till the first Monday in October.

Miss Mary A. Hawley of Normal class of '73 was married Aug. 5 to Wade H. Richardson. The wedding occurred at Chicago and the home of the new family will be Milwaukuee.

Dr. Bateman is expected to return from Europe about the first of October. He will find Knox College grandly started on the year's work.

Jno. Training, Co. Supt., of Schools of Macon, has resigned his position as principal of Decatur's First Ward that he may have all his time for the super intendency. He fears his health will not allow him to do so much work in the future as he has done in the past.

Prof. Metcalf of Normal, after the summer's rest, returns to his work much refreshed.

The attendance at the August meeting of the Normal alumni was not large. It will be found difficult to have successful alumni meetings as long as the school commencement occurs at a time when the alumni cannot assemble. The exercises of Miss Raymond and Capt. Burnham were such as all would have been glad to hear. The next meeting occurs May 25, 1881. The commencement exercises will bring together many of those who may be at leisure then but can hardly assemble those whose schools will still be in session at that time. The officers for next year are: President, P. R. Walker, Rochelle; Treasurer, J. N. Wilkinson, Decatur; Recording Secretary, Emily Sherman, Normal; Corresponding Secretary, John W. Cook, Normal. Arrangements are being made for a grand meeting of the alumni two years hence when will occur the twenty-fifth anniversary of the university.

Over two hundred teachers attended the Livingston county institute. Supt. Tombough was assisted by Messrs. Hoffman, Taylor, Hartwell, Schatts, Ferris, and Parker. The session closed with an examination for state certificates. The Normal University opens with 356 pupils in the normal department alone.

R. R. Beeder, Batall, and M. M. Morrison, Mt. Sterling, are addresses of two Illinois teachers. In their choice of places they have kept up the alliteration of their names.

Douglas county had an institute attendance of 79 of the 109 teachers employed in the county. Supt. King conducted it and was assisted by Messrs. Ware, Shawhan, and Starr.

Chas. McMurry, a well-known Normal student, goes to Colorado. He held a position at some place about 90 miles from Denver. Miss Agnes Hawley also goes to Colorado to teach. Still the exodus continues.

Prof. M. A. Scovell of the State University, Champaign, was married recently to Miss Nannie Davis, daughter of state senator Davis of Monticello. The WEEKLY sends congratulations.

Misses Emily Sherman and Jennie Kennedy of Normal will teach this year with E. R. Boyer at Astoria.

Monticello schools will invest in library books the premium money which they took at the Platt Co. fair.

Jephtha Hobbs writes to have the address of his WEEKLY changed from Kansas to El Paso. We see from Marion papers that they say good things about him down there.
THE PRESS.

THE SPELLING REFORM.—Spelling reformers can take considerable encouragement from the success of the movement in England. There are in England over sixty active organizations, many of them made up of the best in the kingdom. A meeting of the association which leads the movement for the proposed reform was held not long ago in London, and all the schemes for new spelling, having been duly tabulated and classified, were presented for consideration by the members. There appeared to be an almost unanimous agreement among the proposers of schemes as to the sounds to be represented, and many schemes were so nearly alike in principle as to admit of being grouped and dealt with together. The association began the publication of a journal in July, and will present the various systems, one after another, for approval or disapproval. One of the speakers at the meeting of the association ventured to say that there was not a single philologist of the present generation in England or America who was not with the spelling reformers either nominally or in sympathy. This is, perhaps, nearly true. Hundreds of leading newspapers, both in America and England, while they acknowledge all the facts as claimed by the reformers, feel constrained to wait for something like unanimity of action. While The Inter Ocean acknowledges that there are important reasons for reform, it will continue in the established methods until a settled system can be agreed upon. Until this is done a whimsical departure only tends to confusion. Let the English and American associations unite in recommendations for change, not too revolutionary, but in full view of positive demands, and we doubt not that multitudes will give the reform hearty co-operation.—The Inter Ocean.

LEARNING TEXT-BOOKS.—How many of our text-books can be learned exactly as they are written, with all their notes, exceptions, remarks, coarse and fine print? How many of our teachers use a text-book as it is printed, assigning lessons in the order laid down? The number is very small. Is this right? Who knows better how to present a subject than the learned author? Who has, more than he, given years of preparation to the work? What arrogance in a beginner to assume to dictate what should be omitted, and what added! How refreshing for a young sophomore to say, “The author has evidently made a mistake,” or “The section is unnecessary and may be omitted.”

If our text-books cannot be learned as written, by all means let us have others that can. If every teacher is to be a book to himself, where is our unity and harmony in education gone? Nothing is more common among teachers than fault-finding, and it culminates when the subject is the text-book, but folly has gone stark mad when it finds itself embodied in a school-master who assumes to despise text-books, but still dictates from notes copied from several, and yet pretends that what he gives is the result of his own original thought.—Barnet Educational Monthly.

THE RELATIONS OF TRUSTEES TO FACULTY.—Trustees should beware of undue influence from the faculty. The president and professors are entitled to the benefits of college methods until a settled system can be agreed upon; and yet pretends that what he gives is the result of his own original thought. The ending of some pleasant dream, That care, fatigue, or mortal pain Should hope to drive me forth again, In speechless ecstasy! Until it seemeth all in vain That care, fatigue, or mortal pain Should hope to drive me forth again, From such felicity! Selected.

There is something which matrons in general, and mothers in particular, might impress far more strongly on growing girls and thoughtless young women than, it is to be feared, they are in the habit of doing. They ought to take the thoughtless and unsuspicuous into their confidence, and affectionately instruct and warn them on the whole matter of their intercourse with the other sex, instead of, as is too frequently the case, maintaining a rigid silence on the whole subject, except by giving occasionally some meager hints about their bearing on formal occasions. How many thoughtless and unsuspicuous girls, anxious to please, and willing to do much to favor their prospects in the “marriage market,” have never got once a hint of what is after all notoriously a fact—that no man, however rude and uncultivated, will ever venture upon any indecent familiarity, or even the faintest approach to them, with any woman he respects or loves.

How many girls have never been trained to regard the faintest approach to such indecency, in either word or action, on the part of a gentleman, as the most deadly of insults, because an intimation of a low opinion of her character and conduct? Thinking no wrong in the ignorance—aye, and even in the innocence of her heart, many a girl has allowed, had she been better instructed, would have been the subject of all the woman’s suspicion and indignation, and saved her many a sorrow, and possibly shame, in coming days. But these girls are afraid of being thought prudes, and end, therefore, in becoming tomboys, or something worse. Could they be brought to believe, what is a fact, that the man who really respects them would as soon think of striking them with his fist as hinting at or attempting anything which he would be either ashamed or afraid their fathers should know or their brothers might witness, would not a great step be gained in the purification of society and the elevation of woman? And if fathers and brothers as they think of what they expect their daughters and sisters to be, would for their sakes, but learn to treat the whole sisterhood more considerately and respectfully.—MOTHERS, TEACH YOUR DAUGHTERS.

THE HOME.

A MOTHER’S CARE.

I do not think that I could bear
My daily weight of woman’s care,
If it were not for this:
That Jesus seemeth always near,
Unseen, but whispering in my ear
Some tender word of love and cheer,
To fill my soul with bliss.

There are so many trivial cares
That no one knows and no one shares,
Too small for me to tell—
Things that my husband cannot see,
Nor his dear love uplift from me,
Each hour’s unnam’d perplexity.

That mothers know so well:
The failure of some household scheme,
The ending of some pleasant dream,
Deep hidden in my breast;
The weariness of children’s noise,
The yearning for that subl’e poise
That turneth duty into joys,
And giveth inner rest.

These secret things, however small,
Are known to Jesus, each and all,
And this thought brings me peace.
I do not need to say one word,
He knows what thought my heart has stirred,
And by divine cares my Lord
Makes all its throbbing cease.

And then upon his loving breast,
My weary head is laid at rest,
In speechless ecstasy!
Until it seemeth all in vain
That care, fatigue, or mortal pain
Should hope to drive me forth again,
From such felicity!

MOTHERS, TEACH YOUR DAUGHTERS.

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woman on the street, the men who have ruined the reputations of somebody's daughters and sisters; broken, very likely, some mother's heart, and made brothers and fathers both angry and ashamed because their family had been disgraced, and those girls, formerly their pride and joy, had been made lowly things, to be sheltered and provided for possibly, but never to have their names whispered except with a blush and a sigh, as fallen ones who had cast a slur upon the fair fame of their mothers, and heaped insult and infamy on their childhood's homes.–*Working Church.*

**THE STONE FAIRY.**

Upon a solitary rock, whose dark, gray masses lifted themselves gloomily from the clear surface of a mighty stream, once dwelt a beautiful and lovely fairy. Report maintained that she was also a wicked fairy. Yet no one could say that she had ever done him the least harm. It was said that she sat closely wrapped in a black impenetrable veil, on the highest summit of the cloud encircled rock, and the sailors who passed up and down the stream turned far aside to the right or to the left, whenever they caught a glimpse of the unsightly rock in the distance. The people in the surrounding country, and especially the fishermen who lived on the banks of the mighty stream, called her the Stone Fairy, because she had never appeared to any one in the beautiful human form that was attributed to her.

In a lonely cottage on the left bank of the rushing stream, where in summer the adjacent orchards and waving fields of grain decked with fresh green the crumbling ruins of an ancient church and knightly castle, lived a young and ruddy fisherman, who, on account of his cheerful and cordial manner, was a great favorite with both young and old. Many a fair, bright, girtish face looked after him with admiration from its hiding place behind blooming flower-pots, as, with the first beams of the morning sun, he undid the fastenings of his little fishing boat, and with a cheery song steered out for a fishing excursion on the free, open flood.

On a beautiful sunny morning in the month of May, Hellmuthe, as the young man was called, had started out for his fishing on the stream. The soft, splashing waves sparkled in the light of the morning sun like dazzling pears of gold. Not a breath of air was stirring. Only the swans, which, with their blinding white plumage, cut the clear waters, sang inaudibly their mysterious songs. The little birds, too, in the tree tops and hedges, were to-day unusually silent, as if they feared, by a loud outburst of their joyousness, to disturb the sweet calm which overspread the country like a peaceful, invisible spirit.

Dreamily had Hellmuth stretched himself on the bench of his gondola. His hand mechanically guided the rudder. Absorbed by the beauty of the scene so clear in the breath of the May morning, he did not notice that his little boat had begun imperceptibly to approach the dreaded rock. A delicate strain of music, full of tender feeling, which seemed to come up out of the depths, started him at last from his reverie, when he perceived that he was already within the shadow of the awful rock, and that his little vessel was on the point of being wrecked. Instantly he drew his sail and cast a fearful look upwards. But, contrary to his expectation, there was nothing to be seen of the dread fairy. Only a singularly-shaped stone high above on the very summit gleamed in the rays of the mid-day sun.

But ever sweeter, more melodious and delicate rang out from the waters the wonderful tones of a mysterious singer, mingling in soulful harmony with the monotonous pattering of the waves, when, see! from out the gloomy shadow of the rock–strange, mysterious–glides, light and graceful, a gondola of cedar-wood, edged with gold, its sails and streamers of rose-colored silk, a canopy of blue satin wrought with diamonds extending over a soft, white couch of velvet, upon which reclined the graceful form of a lovely maid arrayed in white. She wore a crown of diamonds over her raven tresses, and held in her right hand a lute, while her left grasped a pair of golden reins, with which she guided two swans that drew her little vessel through the water.

As the strange craft came alongside of Hellmuth's little boat it suddenly stopped. The maiden arose. Hushed were song and lute, and around them reigned a deep silence, broken only by the flutter of the sails and the ripple of the waves.

"Fear not," said the lovely apparition, with clear, melodious voice; "I am the fairy of the stone castle, which here rises black and gloomy to the clouds. I have no end of pearls and treasures stored up within these rocky walls. Would you like to see the interior of my wonderful palace?"

"Yes, beautiful lady," replied Hellmuth in bewilderment, for he was completely enchanted by the beauty and angel mildness of the bright fairy.

"Then follow me," said she having her little vessel close to the rock, which she struck with her little golden wand.

A magnificent gateway now appeared to the sight of the wondering youth, its gate standing wide open. Marble steps ascended from the water to the interior of the magic castle. He passed along the tessellated floors, and the fairy guided him through all the halls and rooms of the palace. Everywhere was brilliancy and magnificence, and stores of hoarded treasure.

"How beautiful it is here!" said Hellmuth. "I would like to dwell here forever."

"Your wish shall be gratified," said the lady kindly; "and, besides, you shall be the lord and king of the castle if you shall stand three proofs that I will give you."

"Speak, fair lady," replied he; "what must I do to win your favor?"

"I am called the Stone Fairy," said the maiden, "and they say my heart is as impregnable as my castle. Bring, as the first, the key of both, a pearl from the azure vault of heaven, and castle and heart shall be open for you."

"I will bring you a pearl from the azure vault of heaven," replied Hellmuth, "and with it unlock as well your castle as your heart!"

"It is farther maintained," continued the fairy, "that I am as gloomy and silent as the grave, and know nothing of the entrancing harmony of song. Therefore bring me one of the sweet melodious silver bells with which the Lord of Heaven allures the dwellers of the earth-world to his holy temple, that I may share in the gift of song."

"This second task, too, will I perform," rejoined he. "Within the shortest space of time shall you enjoy the gift of song."

"I am immortal," said she farther, "and therefore invisible to the children of men. Only one day in the year, and that on the first of May, can I be seen by the fishermen who pass down the stream to the vicinity of my castle. Bring me, therefore, as the third and last proof, a crown made of the rubies of the morning light. Only when my head shall be encircled by the rays of the sun can I be seen at all times by mortals. Will you perform these three tasks which I have given you?"

"Surely I will," answered he, decisively.

"Well, then," concluded the fairy, "now return to your own cottage, and consider how you may most safely and speedily attain the end. The sun is just setting; soon will its last beam
disappear beneath the water; you can then see me no more; hasten to get out of the reach of my castle, that the whirlpool in its vicinity may not draw you down into its dark abyss. I will await you a year; till then, farewell!"

As she spake, with her delicate white hand she waved a last adieu to the young fisherman. At the same instant the last purple ray of the evening red disappeared in the cool bosom of the water, and now Hellmuth saw before him only the gigantic mass of rock, which cast its long, unseemly shadow over the silent stream.

Musically he turned his little bark toward home, and when, about midnight, he sought his bed, the lovely fairy appeared to him in his dreams, and in playful mood seemed to whisper in his ear the meaning of her mysterious words. Late on the following morning he awoke and went silently about his daily task, with his usual diligence. He spoke to no one of his charming adventure with the fairy, and his neighbors greatly wondered at the loneliness and seclusion in which he henceforth passed his days.

A year went by. Again the early beams of the May sun looked smiling down upon wood and field, and the clear, bright sky was mirrored in the transparent waters, when Hellmuth set out for the rock castle. He had adorned his fishing boat with a flag and fresh garland of flowers, and arriving at the rock awaited with beating heart the moment when the fairy should appear.

The sun had just reached the zenith when the graceful bark with the charming fairy came gliding over the water. Hellmuth at once became aware that the stream around him was covered with trim little boats and vessels of all kinds, in which, on white velvet couches, reclined light, silph-like forms, full of charm and grace, and the sparkling waves reflected back the glittering scene a thousandfold.

"Now, Hellmuth," said the mistress of the castle, as she turned toward him with a friendly smile, "you have kept your word, I see. Open for me, therefore, the magic castle with the glittering pearl from the azure vault of heaven."

Taking from a fragrant bouquet a simple little flower, a forget-me-not, he offered it to her saying, "Fair maiden, the precious pearl that you desire I bring you in this pure, heavenly gift of God. When the Almighty had created the world and all the millions of flowers came and were clothed with fragrance and beauty, there also came an insignificant little plant to the foot of the throne, and besought the good God not to forget it, but to bestow on it, too, color and fragrance, that it might beautify the world as a flower. And the good God heard the modest prayer of the little plant, and took from his blue mantle a little sapphire, with which he kindly adorned the modest green shoot. 'You shall be called forget-me-not,' he said, 'and as a symbol of faithfulness I will send you to the world, and you shall tell the children of men of my everlasting, unchangeable love and goodness.'"

With beaming smiles the fairy had listened to the words of Hellmuth. "You have succeeded," she said, "and henceforth my palace shall be open to you. Only a heart full of faithfulness as yours could burst those strong gates. Welcome, therefore, to the rock castle of Angela."

A strain of sweet music was heard, and with a thrilling sound the rocky doors swung back, and, just as the year before, Hellmuth entered the wonderful castle of the mighty fairy, Angela, who now took her seat upon a throne radiant with gold and purple.

"Now," she said, "I desire the second, a silver bell, with which the Creator of the universe calls his people to his holy temple."

"Mighty lady," said Hellmuth, "the temple of God is nature. The green wood with the blue arch of heaven over it is God's glorious house, in which the silver tones of thousands of feathered songsters unite in sweetest concert. I bring you the heart of the nightingale, the honored favorite of all living creatures."

Thereupon in a tiny casket, he presented the heart of the nightingale to the lovely Angela, who received it with thanks and swallowed it. At once she felt the fountain of song opened within her breast, and the sweetest melodies that ever sounded streamed forth in soulful song to the farther bank of the stream.

"Now the third," said she smiling, as she ended the song.

The enraptured Hellmuth took a wreath of fresh roses and placed it on the head of the maiden. "These," said he, "are the embossed purple beams of the morning red, and as the rose is the emblem of love, noble lady, so shall this blooming wreath of fresh May roses be the crown which weaves the morning beams of awakening love around your head. By this shall you become like mortals, that they may ever see, love, and admire you."

Now resounded through all the spacious castle sublimest strains, and all the halls and rooms were filled with noblemen and knights in brilliant array, and the court swarmed with richly clad horsemen on gold caparisoned Arabian steeds. Angela took the bewildered youth by the hand, and leading him to the balcony, showed him the country around covered with orchards, vineyards, and cornfields. The stream had now retired, and the castle was on a gently rising height, from which was an extensive view in all directions.

"See, Hellmuth," she said, "over all this rich country you henceforth are king. All these knights and noblemen have appeared to pay their homage to you; for you alone of thousands have known how to perform the task which I had to impose upon all those who sued for my hand. Had you failed you would now, as a lifeless statue, adorn the steps of my palace, and perhaps have waited long years for release."

"Then are these assembled knights in the court indebted to me for release from the spell?" he asked.

"Your surprise is correct," she answered; "and you will rule over them as your most faithful subjects?"

"I will treat them as my friends," said Hellmuth, "and will labor to be a wise, merciful, and righteous ruler."

"And you will take me as your faithful wife?" she asked, smiling.

"Will I!" said he, falling at the feet of the beautiful lady. The next day King Hellmuth celebrated his marriage with the lovely fairy, whose lordly castle and lands were now his possession. He never desired to return to his poor fisherman's cottage, or to his comrades, who, as they still passed along the stream and saw no more of the gigantic rock, used to relate how the Stone Fairy must have allured the youth, and with him and the rock gone down to the bottom of the stream. But Hellmuth reigned for many years over the fortunate land that Angela had brought him as a bridal-gift, and all his subjects honored and loved him, for he was a wise, just, and virtuous king.—Translated from the German by GEORGE HOWLAND.

—Ole Bull, the noted violinist, died in Bergen, Norway, Aug. 18, aged 70 years.
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isk-jewels were sought in perpetual disappointment, the pearl which the oyster all the while was elaborating was pronounced a product of the skies, for it seemed to them too exquisitely fair to be a creature of the wave.

That it fell from the heavens nobody at one time doubted, and even after it was known to come out of oyster shells it was believed that the spherical treasures were drops of dew which had fallen into the sea, and by some occult alchemy of the deep had hardened into pearls. It was, indeed, suggested that they were the oysters' hearts, or the tears of sea-nymphs; but the well-informed agreed that they were products "more divino"—the motto of the divorced Margaret of Navarre, who took the pearl as her sad but appropriate emblem—and, as Pliny opined, "more of the sky and air than of the water and sea." We, living now, have inherited more exact knowledge, and, knowing the true story of the pride of the caskets, can trace back the pretty pearl to the morbid secretion of an ailing oyster, and read in a hundred narratives how the divers of the Persian Gulf and the Ceylon coast dare a horrible death in quest of it. Such is the value of the jewel that life will always be risked for its attainment, and if the sharks would only sow the banks with pearls they informed agreed that they were products of the skies, for it seemed to them too exquisitely fair.

The Bahrein and Ceylon fisheries are, of course, the largest and most valuable; but China and Japan, South America and Australia, as well as some of the islands off the African coast, produce the precious oyster in abundance. The number of shells is not any guide as to the number of pearls, and even the roughest average which the diver may make of the season's collection is, therefore, liable to be utterly wrong. The shells themselves are, however, of great commercial value, and often yield a larger revenue than the season's find of gems, so that the diver really goes down in vain. Nor is the seas concerned, and in China and Japan the industry is one that attracts only the lowest orders. From these sources most of the gems of our markets are derived, but the pearl oyster is of such extensive distribution, a creature of every shore, that nearly all countries contribute pearls to the general stock.

In Europe the fresh-water mussels often yield costly gems. Thus, Bohemia and Bavaria both produce pearls of considerable value and undeniable beauty; and, seeing how large a family the "nacre" yielding bivalves are, nearly every country has its representatives, and therefore its pearl producers. Britain itself was once famous for its pearls, and the mussels in our rivers are consequentlv responsible for a share of the attention which our painted ancestors received from marauding neighbors and from the Romans. Several streams in England, notably the Conway, "the Irt and the End in the manor of Egremont," the Teith, the Tay, and others in the North, and several in Ireland, especially in Tyrone and Donegal, produce shell fish which yield pearls, sometimes of fine quality; while those of Scotland are still in high repute for their faint pink tinge, and not unfrequently for their size also, one old writer speaking of them as being "often" as big "as a bean." In those days of ruder agriculture it is probable that the bean was not of the same proportions as modern pulse, for a pearl the size of such broad beans as flower-shows have made us familiar with would be beyond price. The claim to the possession of the largest pearl in existence has been variously awarded, but if that wonder of the ocean, the pearl "as large as a pigeon's egg, and full white and orient," which three centuries ago was said to have been brought to the King of Spain from Panama, is not a historical myth, his Most Catholic Majesty could challenge competition with some confidence. He could not, however, defy it, for the gem, two inches long and four in circumference, owned by the late Mr. Hope, was a formidable rival, while that which Tavernier bought in Arabia for a hundred and ten thousand pounds was perhaps the queen of all. Again, the pearl which "great Egypt" drank in solution must have been a beauty, for it cost "the firm Roman" more than eighty thousand and pearls, and among the jewelry of the ancient Hebrews were pearls, always their favorite ornament, of great size and incalculable value. That a thing of such costliness should be imitated was not natural, and a thousand different varieties of artificial pearl are known to trade. Of them all, however, only two deserve honorable mention, the one in which an exquisitely fragile bead of glass is filled with the silvery matter scraped from certain kinds of fish, and which is therefore partly a natural pearl, and the other which the Chinese compel the disgusted mollusc to make for them according to order. The Celestials tempt the oysters to open their shells, and then meanly drop between the gaping valves a rough bead of mother-of-pearl. The mollusk, thus annoyed, at once closes upon the obturated fragment, and patiently sets to work to gratify the crafty Chinaman, for in time the artificial ball is covered with true pearl and can defy detection. It is probably only a Chinaman who would thus stoop to take advantage of a poor oyster, and only an oyster that would thus submit to be tricked. Yet the manoeuvre works after all for the good of both, for it gives the mollusk something definite to think about, and the world a very respectable imitation of the natural article without compelling divers to risk their lives.—London Daily Telegraph.
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