The Press and Banner.

By Hugh Wilson.

Wednesday, March 21, 1883.

The A. & K. R. R. and the Impending Change of Ownership.

Last January the Augusta and Knoxville Railroad defaulted in the payment of the January interest on their bonds, and we had in consequence, at that time, talk of a receiver for the road. Then the *Augusta Chronicle and Constitutionalist* announced a most satisfactory solution of the financial trouble. Following that talk came whispers of the probable sale of the A. and K. R. R. to the Clydes, to the S. C. R. R., and to the Georgia Central, with the merest hint that other bidders were in the field for this valuable property in which our people feel so much interest. The *Chronicle and Sentinel* continued to give a most cheerful account of matters. If it did not say so in words, it led some of its readers to believe that the stockholders of the A. & K. R. R. were master of the situation and could demand a rental which would not only pay interest on the bonds, but leave a large balance with which to declare dividends to the stockholders. Most cheering indeed did all this seem.

The financial trouble occasioned by the failure to pay the January interest was relieved by borrowing money from one of the banks in Augusta on the deposite of bonds or other security for the money. About eleven thousand dollars of that money remained unpaid, a few day ago—the earnings of the road not being sufficient to re-imburse the bank. The statement that the Georgia Central offered to give an annual rental sufficient to pay interest on bonds and to declare dividend to stockholders seems to be an error. As we understand it, that road only offered to pay interest on the bonded debt. The offers from the Clydes, and the South Carolina Railroad, if in a definite shape at all, were not more favorable. As we understand the situation, the offer of the Georgia Central Railroad, (which controls the Port Royal Railroad,) was rejected partly because of a syndicate in Augusta which was organized to buy the stock of the road belonging to the State of South Carolina. As our readers may recollect, there was a time in the recent past when the stock of this road, which then existed principally on paper, went up to fabulous figures. The State of South Carolina at that time had $15,000 of the stock, which had been issued to the State in payment for the services of the convicts in grading the road. This syndicate in Augusta was formed and bought the State stock paying 81 cents on the dollar, or about $12,000 for the whole block. If the offer of the Georgia Central Railroad had been accepted, "the money which the purchasers paid for the stock of the State of South Carolina would have been lost with the money of the other stockholders.

The bank in Augusta still holds the coupons of the bonds which they have taken up. If they are not paid within the ninety days of grace, the stockholders may take immediate possession of the road, without the intervention of a receiver. In that event the bondholders of the road will most likely transfer the road, by lease, to the Georgia Central Railroad, when the A. & K. R. R. will be run in connection with the Port Royal Railroad, and also with the road running to Savannah.

The officers and directors of the road have strained every nerve, and have done as well as human wisdom could contrive under the circumstances. This company, like many other new railroad companies, expended all their money in the construction of the road, and no s ill can run a road successfully without a sufficiency of cars and engines. No blame at all can be attached to either the officers or the directors, for they have done more than could be reasonably expected of them. The only wonder to us is, that they finished the road bed with the limited means at their command.

If the change should take place and the A. & K. R. R. becomes a part of the Georgia Central system, we think our people need have no fears. The change of ownership will not affect the public at large—the stockholders being the only lossers to the amount of their stock. A majority of the bonds are owned in Augusta, and our people may rest assured nothing will be done in any event, which will injure us or hurt the city of Augusta.

The Outrageous Conduct of the Republican Officials.

If the people of South Carolina needed any further proof of the vileness and wickedness of the Greenbackers and the Republicans of this State, that proof is being daily furnished. The renegade Republicans of this State have the ear of the United States Courts, and those unscrupulous politicians by forming a conspiracy with deluded negroes and perjured Greenbackers, seem determined to worry and harass the white people of this State to a degree almost beyond endurance. When our people are so outraged they should pledge anew their faith to the Democratic party, and swear eternal enmity and hatred to every deserter from our ranks. The wicked men who are using the United States Courts and their duped followers in the vain effort to break up the Democratic party, and to foist themselves upon the people of South Carolina, are not more wicked than they are foolish. South Carolinians will not again bend their necks to the yoke for Melton and Wallard; nor will they yield up the government and the purse-strings to McLane and his dirty followers. The very names of McLane and his followers stink in the nostrils of decent people, and before that crowd should again rule this State, the patriotic impulse and the strong arm of our people, would render such an event a physical impossibility. To turn over the government to the wicked crew that are now attempting to bring the decent people of South Carolina into disrepute, would be little less than high treason.

Beggars Again.

Our article last week on the beggar nuisance prompted various of our friends to ask us why we did not include in that article some words in reference to the petitions for money which are constantly presented to our citizens for the relief of those who may have been unfortunate in the loss of property. We did not speak of this particular draft on the charity of the people of this village, because we did not care to be offensive in our remarks and because our own unfortunate people, as a rule, are ten thousand times more worthy than these professional beggars, who go all over the country, proclaiming their appeals to charity. We have long ago, as an individual, determined that the petitions to raise money to relieve any particular citizen from loss is objectionable and for this reason we have not given one of them a cent for a long time. We have for years read the names of subscribers to the relief of unfortunate persons, and very often the contributors have, in our opinion, been poorer and more needy than the person for whose benefit the subscription was made. *No man has a moral right to give away his money until he can pay his own debts.* Very often the bearers of these petitions may be said to have the cheek of a "government mule," and will take no polite refusal, but will, by appeal or intimidation, force gifts from unwilling contributors, for the benefit of persons who would feel indignant if they knew the facts as they exist.

The Edgefield Monitor.

Our friend the *Edgefield Monitor* endorses all that we said a week or two ago about advertising patent medicines but that paper is inclined to think we are inconsistent in that we allow the advertisements of the these frauds to appear on our patent outside. In one respect our neighbor's point is well taken, but we think we have to some extent exonerated ourselves from blame by publishing the fact, time and again, that the first and fourth pages of our paper were printed in New York. We agree with the *Monitor* in the main, however, and think that its suggestion to exclude all advertisements from the patent outside a good one, and one which we hope to adopt some day in the future. We cannot well afford to do so now, but hope to do so within the next twelve months. Since we have been publishing so much reading matter the people pay much more promptly, and for this reason we feel that we will lose nothing by adding two or three columns of interesting matter to our outside.

Meeting of the Directors of the A. & K. R. R.

In another part of this paper will be found the minutes of the recent meeting in Augusta, of the Directors of the A. & K. R. R. Our people are much interested in that railway, and they feel anxious, if a change of ownership should come, that the interests of the people of this section may not suffer. The proprietors, the authors and finishers, of this road performed little less than a miracle in putting the cars on this track, and it seems to be a great pity that this valuable property should so soon pass out of the hands of those who have worked so faithfully, and paid their money so liberally, for the public good. The road is in need of money to buy the necessary engines and cars, and without which the best financial results cannot be achieved. From the proceedings, to which reference has been had, it will be seen that some change is most likely to occur. But whether it comes or not, the workers and contributors to the building of this road, have erected to their honor a great monument, while proving themselves to be Abbeville's greatest benefactors.

The Best Labor.

We have seen much in the newspapers about the best laborers—some preferring the German, some preferring the Negro, while others wanted "white labor" of any sort. And the cry has been too common about the worthlessness [of the "labor" with which the country is supplied. In our opinion, there is a kind of labor which, if it could be utilized, would be better and cheaper than any of which we have heard mention—we mean self-labor. Let our own white loafers go to work. As long as a poor but proud white man rents land, gives s lien, and then sets on the fence while a trilling negro plows his horse, we need not expect to hear anything else than that the "labor" of the County is demoralized, and not worth a cent.

THE A. & K.

Meeting of the Board of Directors Yesterday—What Disposition Can Be Made of the Road—How to Protect Its Interest—Another Committee.

[*Augusta Chronicle and Constitutionalist.*]

The Board of Directors of the Augusta and Knoxville Railroad met yesterday noon, pursuant to a call of the president. There were present President E. N. Verdery and Directors Sibley, Alexander, Neal, Metford, Stovall, Young, Clark, May, Buckhalter, Riley, Middleton, Bradley, Franklin and Estes.

The secretary, Mr. M. V. Calvin, read the report of the last meeting, January 3d, which was approved.

The president stated the objects of the meeting to be to receive the report of the committee appointed at the last meeting of the Directory, to see what might be done for the relief of the embarrassments of the road.

Mr. May, being called on by the president, stated that he had as yet had no satisfactory answer from Col. Beck as to the S. C. R. R. He was favorable to taking the road, but the matter had to be referred to his financial de a board. Capt. Rand had been to see during his recent business to the city. He agreed that the road was full of fine prospect and possibility, but had not made any promises as to per cent. for use; he thought in a few years the road would be worth double its value. Mr. May said he believed both the Central and South Carolina Roads would lease A. & K. Some Augusta men had indicated an offer of two per cent. upon the stock; but he did not feel authorized to entertain this offer. He thought something should now be done; as the trustees might shortly take possession of the road. He did not think the city (meaning the City Council) would be willing to subscribe to the road. The road had already proved valuable to the city; but it was believed that the stock might be saved if stockholders would subscribe enough income bond and pay the January and July coupons. The road is in good working order; it has been run economically and for the past six or eight months successfully operated. Why turn this property interest over to the speculators? The road was bound to be successful. The connections would secure large additional revenue at small expense. The finishing touches on it has been reduced one-half. The road's earnings had paid current expenses, with small advances. No new road had worked so successfully. The line was short, but the people along the route were public spirited and prosperous. The Savannah Valley would add greatly to the road. The Augusta and Knoxville had carried already this year 1,500 bales of cotton—larger than any road coming here except the Georgia. Look at the improvement in property in the upper part of the city. Put up the road at public outcry and who would be the purchasers? Might not other roads purchase it and divert trade from us? Mr. May said he had no means to offer, but he was willing to do everything in his power to save the road. If affairs were now settled by the stockholders and bondholders buying up the company, the road would be sound and soon take care of itself. The coupons were mortgage liens on the road, and holders could not lose more than 25 per cent. The road was worth more than a million of dollars. Let the connections come in, and this enterprise, looked at alone, will in three years be worth $1,500,000. The road was in good condition; the iron was new. He was confident that parties were now waiting to purchase this road for half its worth.

The president here submitted the figures of the road for January.

Total income	$8,809 08
Total expenses	6,157 25
Net earnings	$2,652 82

For February:

Total income	$9,359 31
Total expenses	5,441 47
Net earnings	$4,918 84

Business continued good, and indications were that March's business would nearly equal February's.

On motion of Mr. Alexander the report of the committee was received as information.

Gen. Stovall agreed with Mayor May as to the value and benefit of the road. He believed, however, the citizens of Augusta should meet this emergency. The stockholders had done enough. If there was any way in which the City Council could relieve the city of its second mortgage bonds of the road to the extent of its liabilities, it would prevent the road being thrown upon the market. This would be better than depending upon the individual directors. The road wants credit at once. He didn't believe the city would ever lose a dollar.

The Mayor did not think, under the present law, that the city could make the endorsement. The city, however, might purchase an amount of coupons of the road to protect its $53,000 bonds. He thought the city might raise $10,000 now and $10,000 in July, and the coupons might be hypothecated for the loan. The bonded indebtedness, $53,000, would not be sold for a greater loss than 25 per cent. He knew that the road was being run as economically as could be, and everything was being made out of it that could be made. Council and its committees would have to act upon the matter of subscription. Such a subscription might be authorized, but an endorsement of bonds could not be secured. It parties would now come forward and release the second mortgage bonds the road might be relieved.

Dr. Neal asked if the city could buy the coupon bonds?

Mr. Alex said the city could not subscribe or invest bonds.

Gen. Stovall said that after all, the merchants, the people and the city were the ones to be benefited. He thought the City, as representatives of the interest of Augusta, should, if there was any way in the world protect the road. He did not believe or doubt but the road would be in good condition. After twelve months we will be able to stand alone. He feared the directors and stockholders could not now go any further.

Mr. Sibley said if this suggestion were practicable it would be the easiest way out. The bonds now would not sell with the city's endorsement, for it would be illegal. The city's credit was benefited by this road as well as Augusta. He believed if the bond-holders waive the interest and hold the coupons for a year or two it might be better for them.

Gen. Bradley—Are the bond-holders pressing their claims?

Mr. Sibley said he heard that there would be a motion made to force things.

The President said that on April 1st the trustees of the bond-holders could take charge of the road; or if $50,000 of bond-holders so request, the trustees would be compelled to take charge of the road. It would probably then bestold.

Gen. Bradley favored, in such an emergency, that the road be advertised and sold. He knew a road which was hitching to get this line into their hands. But would this benefit Augusta? It was well to keep Greenwood and the upcountry interested in Augusta, or trade would go away. It was better for Augusta and the people along the line to own the road.

Mr. President said the company could sell the stock but not the road. They were not authorized to transfer the franchise.

Mr. May had intimated how the Council might arrange for $10,000. Now could enough be subscribed from other sources to take up the balance? As a citizen he would be willing to take his proportion. Might not this be done in the Board of Directors itself? About $12,000 more would have to be raised. So in July this would also have to be done. In the meantime, the Spartanburg Road would be granted by July 1st, and the importance of the road would be daily increased.

Mr. Rily said his section was much interested in the road. They had doubled their business since the road was opened. He thought the road should be continued under its present management.

Mr. Sibly thought that one fifth additional stock could be subscribed now and in July. He would be willing to do this himself. Mr. Rily signified a like intention.

The President did not think this plan practical.

Mr. Estes moved that a committee of five be appointed to see what might be done to relieve the road of its embarrassments.

Mr. Alexander amended by moving that the Finance Committee be empowered to consult with bondholders and stockholders and see what could be done in the interest of the road. This was adopted. The Finance Committee are Messrs. Verdery, Sibley, Estes, May and McCord.

The meeting then adjourned subject to the call of the President.

Married, on the 6th of March, 1883, by Rev. J. F. Gilbert, Dr. J. Walter Sherard, of Moffattsville, Abbeville county, and Miss Mattie, daughter of Mr. S. F. Gibert, of Lebanon, Abbeville county. We extend our hearty congratulations to friend Walter unde. these auspicious circumstances and at the same time cordially welcome his charming bride to a home on this side of the county line.—*Anderson Journal.*

The Literary Club.

LABOR AND REST — STUDY AND RECREATION.

An Essay Read Before the Abbeville Literary Club on Friday Evening, the 16th March, 1883, by W. A. Lee, Esq.

Says the son of Sirach, "all things are double, one against another, and God hath made nothing imperfect." In the economy of nature, labor and rest, seed time and harvest, day and night, pain and p easure, joy and sorrow, have each their al otted place, di charge their appropriate functions, and accomplish he ends of an All-Wise and Benevolent Providence. "To everything," says Solomon, "there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the Heaven." Pain itself has its use, and adversity, like the toad ugly and venomous, wears yet a precious jewel in its head." "Friendly is our best friend, and evil itself is the handmaid of virtue.

THE CURSE A BLESSING IN DISGUISE.

The curse pronounced upon our earth—"thorns and thistles also shall it bring forth to thee"—and that pronounced upon man—"In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread"—these things in its abuse, and have made the one to bloom and blossom as the rose, and the other to expand in the full development, and mature all-divine of all his faculties, physical, intellectual and moral—has covered the earth with mighty cities and the ocean with the sails of a wide-spread commerce—has made nature everywhere a willing ministering servant to the best purposes of science and art, and scattered far and near, the rich treasures of a highly developed civilization. Labor has wedded a magician's wand—the touch of this from the vasty deep"—to rear a silt palace, with more than necromantic art, and to transmute the baser metal into pure gold, with more than the alchemist's skill—to speed with the giant power of steam the dashing locomotive and the swift ships—to scatter far and wide the printed sheets of knowledge, more precious than the leaves of the Sibyl—to send as with the lightning's flash, messages of peace, of love and fraternity to the remote lands of the world. It has heaped up treasures of art, of knowledge and of riches. According to Adam Smith, the source of all wealth, it has been the measure of all values; and wielder in the world of matter or in the world of mind, its stamp has been the true test of merit. There is no excellence without labor, and perfection is the result alone of close and unremitting toil.

GENIUS ANOTHER NAME FOR STUDY.

Genius itself is but another name for labor; and it is false to its trust and weak and powerless in its efforts, if it relies upon inspiration and not upon disciplined skill to effect its ends. To use the words of an American writer: "The favorite idea of a genius among us, is of one who never studies, or who studies nobody can tell how." The truth is, that genius will study. Attention is the very soul of genius—not the fixed eye, not the poring over a book, but the fixed thought. The fire beams within and breaks forth at length, with spontaneous, native and original force. It only shows the intense action of the elements beneath. The world wonders at the demonstration, but in truth there is no more miracle in it, than there is in the towering of the forest tree, or the bowing of the mighty river, or the waving of the boundless harvests."

TESTIMONY OF HAZLITT.

"There are two common errors," says Hazlitt, "that men of genius, do little, except by intermittent fits; and that they do that little in a slight and slovenly manner," and he cites the example of Shakespeare and Scott, to show as well the folly, as the prodigality of genius—the mastery of the execution as well as the boldness of design—cites the example of the old masters, who furnish a hundred galleries, and preclude competition, not merely by the extent, than the excellence of their performances; and the reason assigned is, that success prompts to exertion, and habit facilitates success.

OF DICKENS.

Says Prof. Minto, "If Dickens had been asked, why his novels were likely to live, he would likely have answered, that he put more work into them than any of his contemporaries." He was found of insisting on his genius as much attention. No genius is of much avail for literary work, without attention, and to this Dickens owes his amazing variety of character, and abundance of incident, which he collected with the industry of a pre-Raphaelite painter.

EXAMPLE OF DEMOSTHENES.

Let us cite the example of him

"Whose resistless eloquence
Wielded at will that fierce democratie
Shook the arsenal, and thundered over Greece
To Macedon and Artaxerxes' throne."

It was only by untiring toil, that Demosthenes attained that matchless excellence which has made his orations the wonder and admiration of succeeding ages. It was only by studying profoundly the best works of preceding masters, and selecting from each his peculiar excellence — from Thucydides his force and pregnancy—from Lycias, his ease and clearness—from Isocrates, his polished periods, his harmony—and from Plato his majesty and elevation—that he combined that rare union of force and beauty, which makes up the perfection of his matchless style. Cicero upon to address first his cultivated and critical people of all antiquity, he neglected no art of elaboration to please them, until perfection became natural, and his address, as he wooed with a success, which made him the pride and glory of the democracy of Athens.

OF CICERO.

Read again the life of Cicero, the orator, the philo-opher and the man of letters—whose name is itself the synonym of eloquence, and who illustrated in his own person the rules, and exemplified the qualities, which make up his treatises *De oratore* and *De Officiis*. No man in all antiquity united in him so fine a profound attainments and varied accomplishments. Studying the language, literature and philosophy of Greece, in the schools of Athens, he aspired to universal knowledge, and made all his attainments subsidiary to his success as the orator and statesman. His orations show consummate art, and the perfection of rhetoric, and survive as the best models of the power which ruled in the forum and swayed the popular assembly.

OF BURKE.

To come down to later times, read the admired productions of Edmund Burke, the English orator and statesman. See with what depth and comprehension of thought, he ranges every field of knowledge, and borrows illustrations from every domain of nature and of art. See with what profusion of gifts, but of genius disciplined by patient labor and unremitting toil, to the accomplishment of great results. "I was not," says he in his letter to the Sheriffs of Bristol, "born and dandled into a legislator. *Nitor in adversum* [I strive against difficulty] is the motto for a man like me."

OF WM. PITT.

The same may be said of his great contemporary the Second Pitt—Prime Minister of England at the early age of twenty-three—who under the inspiring instruction of his father, the Earl of Chatham, prepared himself for that exalted station by the most assiduous study, exercising the every faculties of his and cultivating that gift of sustained and sonorous eloquence, for which he was afterwards distinguished, by nightly and daily converse with the master-pieces of Grecian and Roman oratory.

OTHER DISTINGUISHED ORATORS.

So with like labor, to come nearer home, did Hamilton, Webster, Calhoun and Clay prepare themselves for the contests of the forum and the Senate. So did Hayne, Preston and Pinkney of Maryland. So did Hayne, Preston, McDuffie, Legare and Prentiss. Hamilton never spoke without elaborate preparation. Webster forged the weapons of his celebrated contest with Hayne, during the preceding summer at Marshfield, and Calhoun, after a thorough elaboration of his material, would read the Oration for the Crown," that he might catch the contagious fire and burning eloquence of the master orator of all antiquity. Preston and McDuffie wrote out the most striking passages of their best efforts, and Prentiss, who seemed to apparently impromptu efforts, his loftiest flights, and most stirring appeals, was but pouring forth the fruits of elaborate research, and the treasures gathered from every field of literature and art. Nor did the power of illustration, says he, ever came amiss, and a quotation from Scott, or an illustration from Dickens, served as good a purpose in the backwoods of Mississippi, as in the halls of Congress.

MILTON.

Turn from oratory, to the life of him whose marvelous epic, has given him a place among the first of English poets—Milton—the poet whose rapt vision were unfolded the glories of Heaven, the bliss of Paradise, and the pains of Pandemonium. Hear him say, "in wearisome labor and studious watchings, I have wearied out a whole youth—labor and intense study. I take to be my portion in this life." And hence when he began to compose Paradise Lost, he had the reading of a life time behind him—an accumulated store, to which books, observation and reflection had alike contributed—and his diction was imbued with the spirit and freighted with the associations of all antecedent poetry, and hence while the rythm and harmony of the poem may escape the common ear, it appeals to a chord of sympathy in the breasts of the good men of all time.

GIBBON.

Again, turning from poetry to history, let us see how herculean the task, which was undertaken and accomplished by the historian of the "Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire." What method, zeal and thoroughness in the execution, what range and variety, and comp exity of topics, what fullness of knowledge, what mastery of detail, what breath and power and vividness of description, in this marvelous work of a life time of hundred years. Modern research, according to Mr. Freeman, may open up new stores, but can never supplant the historical genius, and the historical learning of Gibbon.

NO EXCELLENCE WITHOUT LABOR.

But we might multiply examples without number, ransack every domain of knowledge, the home of the student and the shop of the artisan, the pupil, the forum and the shop of the orator, and we shall learn the lesson wherever we turn, that "there is no royal road to knowledge," and see emblazoned in characters of light, upon the portals of every avocation—"there is no excellence without labor."

THE MOTIVES TO LABOR.

But let us consider next what are the motives to labor? Does the love of wealth influence us? Does ambiti n, "that last infirmity of noble minds," stir the bounding pulses of the blood? Does a generous emulation to distance our competitors in the race of life? Do the promptings of duty raise the soul above the attractions and the temptations of fleeting objects and earth-born desires, and a noble impulse move us to become a benefactor among the benefactors of our race, and the good and great of all time, or do we seek knowledge and wisdom and discipline for their own sake; the due development and proper subordination of all our powers, as "their own exceeding great reward." These motives though not alike praiseworthy, may under proper control, be alike innocent; and addressing themselves to the infinite variety of mental condition, furnish the impelling power to the accomplishment of all that is best and brightest in our civilization.

CULTIVATION AND DISCIPLINE.

But whether regarded as means to an end, or as an end in itself, the cultivation and discipline of all of our faculties, is the proper end of a liberal education, and the first and essential condition of the success in the business of life. We are composite beings, made up of faculties, intellectual and moral. According to the classification of Sir William Hamilton, the first or the intellectual divide into the pre-entative, or perception, external and internal, the retentive or me ory, the reproductive or recollection and suggestion, the representative or imagination, the elaborative or conceptive, judgment and reasoning, and the regulative which furnish the laws and conditions of thought; the second or moral, divided into the emotions, feelings and desires. Now upon the proper discipline and due subordination of all these faculties, rest the success ful search and proper prosecution of any undertaking.

THE UNDUE ASCENDANCY OF THE EMOTIONAL

The undue ascendancy of the emotional over the intellectual faculties, or of any one of the latter among themselves, are fruitful sources of error. The sway of passion, pride and prejudice, the undue influence of self-love, the operations of hope, fear and pity, obscure the serene atmosphere of truth, and banish that "dry light" of reason, which according to Bacon, can alone illumine the path of philosophy.

UNEQUAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE INTELLECTUAL

So the undue preponderance of any one of the intellectual faculties is equally fatal; the exclusive cultivation of the powers of observation, to the neglect of the higher powers of the understandin g; the undue development of the memory, or excessive exercise of the imagination, at the expense of the higher exercises of judgment and reasoning. Memory is a great faculty—but if in its exercise it becomes a servant of the understanding, but when allowed to be master it dwarfs the noble powers of thought, and leaves the mind with a mass of ill-assorted and ill-digested rubbish. Imagination is a faculty necessary to the poet and artist, and also to the historian and the philo-opher, giving symmetry, proportion and reference to the multifarious objects of thought; melting them anew, into a thousand lovely forms of beauty and grace; but there is such a thing as entirely taming the imagination by the superiority of the judgment, so that a man becomes a the slave of his fancies, and is unfitted for the practical business of life.

THE TRUE CORRECTIVE.

The true corrective of undue development or of excessive weakness, is by a proper method and proportion of study, to excite the feeble and restrain the strong, so that a due equipoise be maintained in the mental constitution. "Studies," says Lord Bacon, "perfect nature and are perfected by experience, for natural abilities are like natural plants that need pruning by study; and studies themselves do give forth directions too much at large, except they be bounded in by experience. Histories make men wise, the mathematics subtile, natural philosophy deep, morals grave, logic and rhetoric able to contend."

KNOWLEDGE AND WISDOM CONTRASTED.

It is to be observed that knowledge and intellectual cultivation are not identical, and that knowledge is chiefly useful as a means to intellectual cultivation. Says the poet, Cowper:

"Knowledge and wisdom far from being one,
Have oft times no connection.
Knowledge dwells in heads replete with thoughts of other men,
Wisdom in minds attentive to their own."

ACTIVITY THE LAW OF OUR BEING.

"The intellect," says Aristotle, "is not perfected by knowledge but by activity"—"the end of philosophy is not knowledge, but the energy conversant about knowledge." "Old age," says Lessing, "holding in his right hand truth, and in his left hand, Search after Truth, deign to tender me the one I might prefer; in all humility, but without hesitation, I should reject Search after Truth." Activity is the law of our being, and it is ever the contest that prepares us, and not the victory.

THE MATHEMATICS.

The merits and demerits of mathematics, as a means of mental training, have been thoroughly discussed by Sir Wm. Hamilton and Prof. Wheweli, and we think that the former has conclusively shown, as well by reason as by authority, that except in the power of fixing the attention, mathematics, even in the form of Euclid's demonstrations, are useless as a mental exercise; in fact as doing a positive injury by withdrawing the mind from the exercise of its powers of observation, from intuition and judgment, when employed in the collection and use of its material; and thus unfits it for the practical business of life, where probable reasoning and not demonstrative, furnishes the chart and compass.

LANGUAGE AND NATURAL SCIENCE.

The study of language, of metaphysics and of natural science, is not amenable to th's objection; an I will awakening the first genius of mental effort, affords scope for the exercise of the highest mental powers.

READING, CONFERENCE AND WRITING.

But whatever may be the character of our studies, we need something more than books, to discipline the mind. "Reading" says Lord Bacon, "maketh the full man, conference the ready man, and writing the exact man" and hence, the man who would attain the perfection of his powers,—the fullness, breadth and comprehensive power of all his faculties—he who would make all his stores available, and transmute his hoarded treasures into the currency of speech, and thus make interest upon his investments; he who would attain accuracy and true precision of thought, must not only give attention to reading, but exercise his tongue and his pen.

LIBERAL CULTURE NECESSARY.

Above all, we must not content ourselves, with anything short of a broad and liberal culture, a culture which shall exercise all our powers, and enlarge our sympathies so that we shall make the whole domain of knowledge contribute to our advancement. "He who would attain a good style," says Dr. Johnson, "must give his days and nights to the study of Addison"—so he who would attain the highest perfection of culture, the vigor, beauty and grace of thorough development, must invest with a daily and nightly study, the masterpieces of Grecian, Roman, Mediæval and Modern genius; and catch by only converse the spirit of poets, orators, statesmen, historians, philosophers and men of letters.

METHOD THE GOLDEN KEY.

But how shall we accomplish all this, in our short lifetime, hours and ten? *Passent quia posse videntur* [They are possible, because they seem to be possible] To the courageous, all things are possible. "In the beginning of a month, there is no such word as fail." Method is the golden key, which unlocks the treasury of knowledge and makes all its stores our own. The brief moments of time are more precious than the gems of the earth or the pearls of the sea, and are to be husbanded with more than a miser's grasp. It was by method and wise economy of time, that Dr. Mason Good, amid the cares of an engrossing profession, and that Lord Brougham found time to write a whole number of the *Edinburgh Review*, amid the distractions of his professional career.

AVOID HASTE.

It is thus that we avoid haste, and with our motto *festina lente* [Make haste, slowly] Keep aloof from the danger which is pointed out by the greatest of English philosophers, "that the extreme and the strong bent of the mind after knowledge, unless wearily watched, is often a hindrance to it, as it catches after the variety of knowledge, without looking to that which is before it, and neglects the treasures which can only be found by digging into the rich mines of knowledge."

LABOR AND THEN REST.

Take a truce to work! *Opere peracto indemus* (the work being done we will play) was the motto of the great Lord Mansfield—work first and play afterwards—each in its order. Such is the law of nature, and such is the decree, which wisdom teaches to the throbbing brain of the student, and the wearied hand of the artisan. Nature tolerates no infraction of its laws, and the command to rest is as imperative as that which enjoins labor. The over-worked brain may give no sign, the strained nerves may escape observation, but in a moment when we least expect—"the silver cord is loosed, and the golden bowl is broken, and the cup is broken at the fountain, and the wheel is broken at the cistern."

HERBERT SPENCER ON THE AMERICANS.

Herbert Spencer, the English philosopher, in an address at a complimentary dinner given to him in New York, last Fall, let his hosts know that they are an over-wrought people, that we turn gray ten years sooner than Englishman, that immense injury is done by this high-pressure life, that we thus deprive ourselves of enjoyment of their best, and that we entail incalculable injury upon our posterity. In spite of the protests of American journalists, we suppose, that there is much truth in the statement, and that this premature age is naturally owing to that stress of competition for wealth and honor, which is opened up to the humblest of our citizens. As he says, "we have had too much of the gospel of work, and it is time now, to preach the gospel of relaxation."

LOCKE'S WARNING.

"If by gaining knowledge," says Locke, "we destroy our health, we abor to a thing which will be useless in our hands; and if by harassing our bodi s, we deprive ourselves of the opportunities of doing that good, which we might have done with a meaner talent, we rob God of so much service, and our talent of all that help, which in a state of health with moderate knowledge, we might have been able to perform. He that sinks his vessel by over loading it, though it be with gold and silver and precious stones, will give his owner but an ill-account of his voyage."

THE SOUND MIND IN THE SOUND BODY.

The mens sana, in corpore sano [The sound mind in the sound body] of the Roman satirist, is an essential element of success, and the one cannot well exist without the other. "A cheerful mind helps digestion," says Lord Bacon, "a merry heart doeth good like a medicine, but a broken spirit drieth the bones." So on the other hand, "healthy minds," says Sir Wm. Hamilton, "are the greatest of all pleasures, since this alone makes the state of life easy and desirable; and when this is wanting a man is really capable of no other pleasures."

HOW ACQUIRED.

But how can we acquire and maintain this bodily and mental health? by observing a due proportion between our cares and our pastimes; cultivating all natural and innocent amusements—the evening fireside, the domestic circle, the society of our friends, lively music and amusing books; and preserving withal a serene and cheerful temper.

SLEEP.

Sleep is the most innocent and the most necessary, of all recreations, "balm of hurt minds, sore labor's bath"—and it is no economy of time to abridge the hours, which may be devoted to it. A Hannibal, a Napoleon or a Wesley, may find that less than nature's hours may suffice them; yet on the other hand, a Story or a Scott, or other great workers accomplish as much by sleeping more.

CHANGE OF PURSUIT.

Again relaxation may be found in a change of pursuit; by the variety of our studies, rather than by a total cessation from toil. The mind is refreshed, not so much by idleness as by pleasant occupation; by turning at intervals from grave to gay, from labor to amusement. It was this that Charles James Fox, the English statesman, was accustomed to forget the vexations of his wayward career over the pages of Herodotus, and many a Hero of Letters has turned away from the strife of the forum and the Senate to assuage his wearied spirit, with the consolations of literature and philosophy.

RUFUS CHOATE.

It was thus that Rufus Choate, the lawyer and statesman, found freedom from care and solace from toil. To use his own language: "It is not always that the busy day is followed by the peaceful night. It is not always that fatigue wins sleep. Often some vexation outside of the toil that has exhausted the frame—some loss in a bargain, some loss by insolvency, some unforeseen rise or fall in prices; some trim pla of a mean and fraudulent competitor—the laws delay, the proud man's contumely, the insolence of office, and some one of the spurns, that patient merit of the unworthy takes"—some self-reproach perhaps, follow you within the door, chill the fireside, sow the pillow with thorns; and the mind dare not to think of the last waking thought and haunts the vivid dream. Happy then is he, who has laid up in youth, and held fast in all fortune, a pensive and passionate love of nature, of the fresh air and the green fields, and more healthful charm, than poppy, or mandragora or all the drowsy syrups of the world—to say that single taste he may bound into the regions of delightful studies and be at rest."

THE LOVE OF NATURE.

Akin to the consolations of literature and philosophy, are those which refresh the true lover of nature, who finds "books in the running brooks, sermons in stones and good in everything." Thus sings our own great poet of the woods, Bryant:

"To him, who in the love of nature, holds
Communion with his visible forms, she speaks
A various language; for his gayer hours,
She has a voice of gladness, and a smile
And eloquence of beauty; and she glides
Into his dark musings, with a mild
And healing sympathy that steals away
Their sharpness, ere he is aware."

WORDSWORTH.

The love of nature may be so cultivated, that we may become as sident a devotee of Nature, as the poet Wordsworth and adopt his language:

"The sounding cataract,
Haunted me like a passion; the tall rock,
The mountain, and gloomy wood,
Their colors and their forms were to me
An appetite. And I have felt
A presence that disturbs me with the joy
Of elevated thoughts; a sense sublime
Of something far more deeply interfused,
Whose dwelling is the light of setting suns,
And the round ocean and the living air
And the blue sky."

RELIGIOUS PEACE AND CHRISTIAN HOPE.

Such and so various are the pleasures, with which the toil-worn student may assuage his weary spirit; and borrowing new strength from relaxation, may renew his vigor, and mount aloft on "eagle's wings." And happy shall he be, who will be able to "see a God in all the good and ill that checker life;" and crown the labors of an active life, not alone with the consolations of literature and philosophy, but with the higher joys of religious peace, and Christian hope.

Plymouth Pulpit.

THE PARABLE OF THE JUDGMENT.

Sermon by Henry Ward Beecher.

PRAYER.

Thou beholdest the struggles that are going on in us. Thou dost discern what are our toward conflicts. Thou seest how sharp is selfishness, how obstinate is pride, and how invincible is the love of the praise of men rather than of God. Thou dost discern our courage when evil is at hand that suits us, and our fear and trembling when we are called to be heroic. In that which is good thou dost discern how is perfectly our purpose is baffled in execution and how every day has its lament of unaccomplished desire and meaning. Thou dost discern the whole thrall of life; thou dost behold with the eye of pitying justice, and yet never deceived; thou dost know the good from the evil; the evil thou dost hate, and the good thou dost love. Blessed be thy name, that thy justice is not of the under-handed, but is of the heart; that the divine love displays a plan, that in three adjustation nothing is revenge, a thing is raze, nothing is for the sake of suffering. Thou dost destroy selfishness that it may be changed. Thou dost chastise pride that it may come to be a simple, true and function. We think thee to be the truth, thy justice, thy power, and thine intelligence move in the directions of bounty and beneficence. Thou art God over all, blessed forever, and forever to reign.

We draw near to thee unable to conceive what must be the ch of being in such as thou art; but we see the shining of thy glory afar off. We know that all that is good in us comes from thee, and we pray that we may be thine. We believe that the riches of thy being will transcend knowledge forever more, and that thou will be eternally better and more powerful in goodness than we think. We pray that thou will draw our heart near to thee, that we may put away from ourselves idols, and that we may dismiss from our thoughts all misconceptions and all disfigurations which are in the way of thy being and thy love. May we look upon thee as the Father of our spirits, rejoicing in our good, and as the suffer er for us, bearer in thy sympathy all the wants and toil of the whole universe. O thou eternal Mystery of love, O thou everlasting Wonder of fortitude, patience and grace, we desire ourselves to be brought into these feelings which dwell mainly with thee that through the experience of our own hearts we may detect what thou art, learn of God, and know how to love him by being transformed into his sort and image

We pray for those who have a heart to love, that they may be clothed more perfectly with that love which is in Christ Jesus that in their love they may be king and joyful sacrifice, giving up of th t which is selfish in themselves, and a development of the power in themselves which is noblest and best. We pray that we may be lifted out of the circuit of their thoughts and in the sage liberty of their soul.

We pray that thou wilt draw into the sanctuary of true, christian life those that are wandrers, and th t have not found and no hope in this world. Oh! their form of Euclid's demonstrations, are useless as a mental exercise; in fact as doing a positive injury by withdrawing the mind from the exercise of its powers of observation, from intuition and judgment, when employed in the collection and use of its material; and thus unfits it for the practical business of life, where probable reasoning and not demonstrative, furnishes the chart and compass.

LANGUAGE AND NATURAL SCIENCE.

The study of language, of metaphysics and of natural science, is not amenable to th's objection; an I will awakening the first genius of mental effort, affords scope for the exercise of the highest mental powers.

READING, CONFERENCE AND WRITING.

But whatever may be the character of our studies, we need something more than books, to discipline the mind. "Reading" says Lord Bacon, "maketh the full man, conference the ready man, and writing the exact man" and hence, the man who would attain the perfection of his powers,—the fullness, breadth and comprehensive power of all his faculties—he who would make all his stores available, and transmute his hoarded treasures into the currency of speech, and thus make interest upon his investments; he who would attain accuracy and true precision of thought, must not only give attention to reading, but exercise his tongue and his pen.

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