

Intellectual Education

IN this aeroplane age we have the hue and cry rising from the four corners of the earth,—“practical and vocational training,” or an education that will help a man to earn his bread and butter.

Without the fundamentals or the foundation upon which to build, education will mean very little to anyone. The great trouble is that we want the “practical training” first, without the previous preparation, and consequently failure is the usual result.

The true meaning of education is the drawing out or moulding of a man's faculties so as to enable him to successfully combat the trials and tribulations encountered in life's battle. If a man starts out into the world with a mind so trained that he is capable of thinking and reasoning independently, he naturally will acquire knowledge fast enough after he has left school. We do not use Latin or Algebra, for example, to a large extent after we leave school, but the mental training we have acquired from the study of these, benefits the student throughout life. It has trained him to do his own thinking. It is not the amount of Latin that we remember that does us good, but it is what we forget. Hence to say “we should not learn Latin because, being a dead language we soon forget it,” is absurd. It is not the purpose of our schools to make farmers of our boys or housekeepers of our girls, but it is to prepare them to live in the highest plane of whatever occupation they may follow and consequently get the very best out of it. Each day brings us closer to the practical education, and carries us further from the two essentials—intellectual and moral education. The three should go hand in hand. Intellectual education means an awakening in a man ; it develops his intelligence and enables him to see things which are aids to prosperity. Educated men are, today, going into our factories and pointing out to “practical men how

they are losing in time and money by useless movements etc. Our "practical" men seldom see one foot ahead, whilst the educated man has a wide mental scope, and makes the task his kingdom and him its king. Above all let us not neglect the moral side of life. It matters not how well the other two phases of education may be developed, unless the heart is right, failure awaits us. The training of the heart will enable the man or woman to feel the obligations which they owe, and to perceive the attitude which they should bear towards their fellow creatures. In our prisons we find brainy men and women whose education embraced both the intellectual and the practical, but they have failed and failed badly, for the simple reason that their moral education was neglected.

Practical education is all right but let it be reserved for its own place. Let us not harken to the clamour of this flighty age, but instead, develop all our God given powers of mind, body and heart.

W. C. CURLEY, '17.



From lowest place when virtuous things proceed,
The place is dignified by the doer's deed.

Good name in man or woman is the immediate
jewel of their souls.

If all the year were playing holidays,
To sport would be as tedious as to work

If ladies be but young and fair,
They have the gift to know it.

'Tis the mind that makes the body rich ;
And as the sun breaks through the darkest clouds,
So honour peereth in the meanest habit.