

At the base we are almost sure to find bad home government, then parental neglect, next truancy from school, then vagrancy from home, and in the end, actual crime. The indications for the best means of reclamation seem to be plain. Among these, after religious instruction, we would place the thorough discipline of the schools, enforced by persistent system, kindness, decision, and when necessary uncompromising vigor.

Here the healthful restraint, the mental labor, the awakened emulation, the progressive acquisition, will be found to be the most desirable means in curing the mind perverted and diseased from mere animal indulgence or criminal proclivities, and thus perfecting the work of a reformatory institution. In all this, regular and useful bodily labor is by no means to be overlook, by it is only to be enforced as an auxiliary to the work of the school, and as a curative of previous idle habits, to which, with very rare exceptions, all have been addicted. If a sound mind be desired, we must have a sound body, and this can be best produced by proper physical employments. But if this special object be ignored, and pecuniary gain be made the chief end of labor, then that which ought to be merely subsidiary, is made paramount, and the whole scheme of moral reform is thus most unwisely subverted.

The cultivation of a taste for music, vocal and iustrumental, and the regular professional instruction in the science, still holds a place in our scheme of education as an element in juvenile reform.

The Sabbath services too are heightened by the educated singing of the inmates, and it must be a gratification to their instructress in this department, to receive the repeated thanks of those who have left our care, for the knowledge imparted to them by her teaching. One lad gratefully says,—“often when at my daily employment, come to my mind those beautiful hymns which were taught me by Mrs. L.,” and this, doubtlessly is the experience of many others. It has been well said that “a hymn may find him whom a sermon flies,” and who can tell how many have carried away with them a devotional thought, or a convictive admonition, or a word of truth, thus happily taught, that will come unbidden in the hour of temptation, or of awakened conscience, and be to them as a word seasonably spoken, and have its enduring and soul-saving effect.

Instrumental and choral music continue to be taught by Prof. Deems. Many of his pupils who have gone from us, are heard from as holding reputable positions in Church Choirs, as well as in brass bands in different towns in the States.