

INFLECTING CORPORAL PUNISHMENT ON PUBLIC SCHOOL PUPILS GOES ON IN NEARLY ALL PARTS OF THE LAND.



KNEELING ON DRIED BEANS.
Imported from Bavaria.



BUMPING HEADS TOGETHER.



EAR TWEAKING.



SHAKING TILL HEAD WAGGLES.

THREE R'S AND RATTAN.

States Where Knowledge Is Still Literally Beaten In.

Some folks were surprised recently when a committee of the Board of Education advised the revival of the rod for New York school children and the motion was defeated by the narrow margin of 21 to 17. They thought the day of corporal punishment was gone beyond hope of revival, but whipping is by no means extinct throughout the country. The road to knowledge through pain is still the theory and practice in most of our public schools. Wisdom is variously mapped, poked, bumped, tweaked and flogged into the tender anatomy of the young. It is forbidden by law to beat domestic animals unduly, and the flogging of sailors has long been abolished, while convicts are immune from corporal punishment in many states. Children, it would seem, are incorrigible monsters and still require the penalties of mediæval times. Did not Calvin discover that millions of little ones were subject to damnation at the moment of birth? The old Ned was in 'em, and it was kindness in pedagogy and parent to beat him out.

It has been officially denied that a teacher of the Middle West lately carried discipline to the extreme of driving a tack through a pupil's tongue, but a host of lesser punishments are indubitably in existence. The affecting romance of Mr. Squeers and Washington Irving's portrayal of the rod in Colonial days lose their remote air when we view the facts and picture exhibits concerning child torture which the federal bureau of education has lately brought together at Washington. It is an impressive array of weapons wielded by schoolmasters of all ages and countries, beginning with Rome and ending with American cities of high educational repute to-day. One's respect for the pedagogue as the

immemorial Simon Legree of the classroom rises to an unspeakable point. One is led to inquire whether teachers as a class have not become specially qualified in the past to accept positions as executioners, and in the present to wield sledgehammers in the Chicago stockyards. When the poet declared that a little learning was a dangerous thing he perhaps recalled the clubbing that he received from an austere preceptor.

Things are not quite so bad to-day as they used to be. There are refinements and limitations to the amount of knowledge a teacher may introduce through the hide of his pupil. For instance, the Roman flagellum, or thong with bits of lead attached, is barred from the American schoolroom. The German practice of compelling a pupil to kneel on a floor strewn with gravel or beans is not common. Royal whipping boys, otherwise proxies, who received the thumps properly due to the sacred, untouchable persons of young princes, are not known in our democratic land. Boston to-day prescribes a rattan for the punishment of children; San Francisco, a strap or rattan; Los Angeles, a strap or switch. Girls are exempt from whipping in Boston, New Orleans and San Francisco.

Kindergarten babies are due to have original sin "licked" out of them in twenty-eight large cities. The little primary pupils are lawfully whacked in Atlanta, Boston, New Orleans, Providence and San Francisco. It has occurred to the legislators of four large cities to forbid a pedagogical assault on the vital parts of children—thus, blows on the head and violent shaking are forbidden in Cincinnati, and a punch in the face is regarded as unconventional in Los Angeles. Kansas City, New Orleans and New Haven deprive the teacher of the pleasure of assailing children in the first heat of his wrath. Minneapolis and Providence require the parents' written consent for the rite, while in several cities the principal's consent is entirely suf-



"HORISING."
Imported from Scotland.

ferle, a Bavarian teacher, boasted that in his fifty-one years he had administered 911,500 strokes with the cane, 121,000 whacks with the rod, 136,000 blows with the ruler, 10,200 boxes on the ear and a further large number of miscellaneous chastisements. This prince of pugnacious pedagogues confesses that he made 5,001 children ride a wooden horse with sharp points on its back. Among the famous floggers of Eton School was Dr. Keats, who got up from a dinner party, strapped eighty boys, and resumed his meal with placid appreciation. Dr. Wooll, of Rugby, gave thirty-eight lads a good

MASKED THIRD DEGREE.

Detectives Hide Identity While Examining Criminals at Headquarters.

Philadelphia has lately followed the lead of the New York detective bureau in a matter that deeply concerns the interests of the members of that large and growing class who are subjected to the matutinal line-up. No longer do the predatory persons of the Quaker City and the officers of the law confront each other without means of distinguishing identities. The sheep and the goats are clearly divided beyond such trifling distinctions as towled and well combed hair, lean and well fed bodies. A stranger who visits headquarters may still be puzzled for a moment, lacking the key to the system of differentiation. He sees a number of masked men and perhaps hastens to the conclusion that these are the hideous malefactors, burglars and porch climbers, thus exhibited in their proper dress for the inspection of authority. The dapper young men who wear their own faces would seem to be the "honest" men. But it is just the other way around, and once being informed of this the visitor has no trouble at all in telling which are detectives and which are crooks.

New York's detective bureau took up the idea about a year ago.

The effect on a prisoner who has spent a night in a cell and is taken upstairs to confront a ring of masked faces is said to be very beneficial. In Philadelphia a prisoner burst into tears of alarm and excitement as he surveyed the silent ring of white masks. It takes an old offender to bear the scrutiny and make reply to voices of accusation proceeding from facial shrouds in the style of the mediæval Inquisition. Justice becomes impersonal and terrifying. A pal may be concealed behind the slit cloth; the voice is muffled and yet suggests acquaintance.

There is an advantage in administering the third degree to malefactors through the fists of masked men. The person who receives this educational course is often too likely to store up in memory the faces of his preceptors and cherish ideas not of gratitude and thankfulness. If the masks do not prevent such unhealthy sentiments, at least they distribute and transform them into a mild general prejudice.

Many useful devices may be practised in this connection. For instance, a masked detective jolts a malefactor into insensibility, and then removing his mask ministers to him as a protector and friend, and gains his confidence. Thus morality is advanced and the line between the sheep and the goats is still clearly drawn.

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MASKED DETECTIVES EXAMINING PRISONER FOR SUBSEQUENT IDENTIFICATION.
Device adopted at Police Headquarters in New York and Philadelphia to prevent crooks from becoming too well acquainted with the features of the detectives.

ficient. The principal or his assistant do the job in six commonwealths. Other teachers besides the flogger are oddly required as witnesses in Kansas City and Scranton, Penn.

Statistics of American beatings have not been compiled, so it cannot be said whether the record of certain historical past masters in the art of assaulting the young is in danger. One Hau-

tanning in fifteen minutes. Young women were flogged in the English boarding schools as late as 1830. Some of those who attended a fashionable school in Bath had their feet put in stocks, blackboards placed at their backs and darning needles stuck in their bodies under their chins, so that if they stooped they pricked themselves.