A Mistake of Modern Teachers

By PROF. G. N. GRANT,
Principal Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, Canada.

AS the history of the world is the judgment of the world, let us ask what its judgment is regarding the importance of teachers. According to its verdict, they have been the great benefactors of the world both in the east and in the west. To this day, the educated youth of Britain, of the United States, and of Europe sit at the feet of those two great teachers, Plato and Aristotle, when studying for the highest degree in literae humaniores. Plato and Arstotle again were the disciples of that genuine teacher, Socrates, who taught the youth of Athens so effectually that they gave him hemlock to drink, a reward such as was usually given to the prophets of Israel. What a tribute to the intellectual supremacy of Socrates have the centuries steadily paid, because he insisted on getting to a rational foundation for life and tested every other foundation with quiet, remorseless dialectic! His spirit, through his disciples, has ruled all the western world from his urn for more than 2,000 years. The phrase which the Greeks used with regard also to their great dramatists was that Aeschylus taught this, that Sophocles taught this, that Euripides taught this. In other words, each play was a lesson, and the poet was a teacher. Go to the east, and the record is the same. Buddhism is the most widely spread religion there. The Buddha was simply a teacher, one who taught his disciples the secret of life and character, making the deepest truths familiar to all by means of parables, like Him of whom it was said that without a parable He taught nothing. Who, again, is the man that the teeming millions of China have revered for twenty-five centuries, to whom they raise temples, and who has molded their compact civilization? Confucius, who from first to last was a teacher, who, while secretary of state or prime minister, based his successful administration on what he had taught his disciples, and who retired from his high office to resume the work of teaching, when his aim was deemed too high by a sovereign who had yielded to sensual temptations. Going higher still, by what title was Jesus known, during all His public life? By the title of rabbi, or teacher. He taught the inner circle of His disciples and the multitudes, "without hasting, without resting."

What was the great characteristic of all these teachers? THEY TAUGHT WITH AUTHORITY. EVERY ONE OF THEM KNEW HIS SUBJECT, took it seriously, loved it for its own sake, continually found new wealth in it, was enthusiastic about it, and so made his disciples enthusiastic. To come in contact with such a mind is of itself a liberal education. That is what Garfield meant when he defined a college as President Hopkins sitting on one end of a log and he on the other end. Such a teacher makes his subject interesting to his scholars, unless they are hopelessly bad or hopelessly imbecile. Because we seldom get such teachers, we demand subjects of study which in themselves are interesting, such as dime novels, shilling sockers, penny dreadfuls, Henty's histories, and the sporting columns of yellow journals. Fond parents, seeing the dear children devouring literature of this kind, are filled with admiration at their devotion to books and love of learning, and sigh over the educational advantages which this generation has, compared with the condition of things in their days. The scholars should, of course, be interested. BUT THERE IS A GREAT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN INTERESTING BY INSPIRING AND BY AMUSING OR EXCITING. We seldom attempt more than the latter. We have substituted for discipline merely interest.

But I say unto you, that in this place is one greater than the temple.—Matt., xii., 6.

THE PLACE TO WORSHIP :: :: ::

By Rev. G. Campbell Morgan

A man is greater than any form of ritual. The temple itself was not the link between God and man, but only the symbol of the link. Sometimes we think that it consecrates the man. It is not so. It is the worshiper that gives value to the temple. Every human being here this morning is greater than this house, with all its magnificent appointments and aids to worship.

Christ is greater than the temple also in that the ante-type is greater than the type. Being greater than the temple, Christ first appropriated it, then superseded it, and He was independent of it. Therein began His trouble with the priests. What had been intended as an aid to worship had become a hindrance, and wherever any of its orders interfered with spiritual things He swept them away. There was nothing lost to the world when the temple was destroyed, save, perhaps, a shrine to which people would pay visits once in awhile, and I would to God there were fewer such shrines in the world to-day.

But RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE, whether in the desert or the city, on the mountain or in the valley, IS THE PLACE FOR YOU TO WORSHIP. We do not have to come here to find God. Wherever the worshiper is, there is God."

Work and the world works for you, but when you stop to loaf you will find the old globe going round just the same.

IS A POSTAL CURRENCY DESIRABLE?

By THOMAS L. JAMES,
Ex-Postmaster General—President Lincoln National Bank, New York.

There is already a Postal Currency in operation in this country, but only First Class Offices are permitted to issue orders. THIS SYSTEM SHOULD BE EXTENDED SO THAT THE GENERAL PUBLIC MAY HAVE THE BENEFIT OF THE LAW. There should be a post office at every crossroads, to take charge of the issuing.

There is some question whether the scheme of a General Postal Currency is practical. OF COURSE IT IS PRACTICAL. Registered letters are sent from all post offices. The Government is the largest express office in the world, and carries goods cheaper than its rivals. It also conducts the largest financial business in the world. The New York Post Office alone issues and pays more than a hundred million dollars each year.

POSTAL CURRENCY IS PRACTICAL, AND WOULD BE OF ADVANTAGE TO THE PUBLIC

No Taste for Apples.

The teacher was trying to help the boy. "Now come, Johnnie," she said, "which is greater, two-thirds or three-quarters?"

The boy did not know.

"Oh, yes, you do," said the teacher, hopefully. "Which would you rather have, three-quarters of an apple or two-thirds of an apple?"

"Two-thirds," said the boy on a guess.

'Oh, no,' said the teacher, hopelessly, "why, two-thirds would be less than three-quarters."

"I know it," said the boy, promptly, "but I don't like apples."—St. Louis Star.

Embarrassing.

"Has either of you ever been married before?" asked the license clerk as the leadingman and the ingenue appeared at the window.

"I've been married three times," said the gentleman. "Birdie, how many times have you—'"

"Dear me! How awkward," she exclaimed. "I counted them this morning and had a list, but—but I must have left it at the hotel. I'm so forgetful."—Chicago-Record-Herald.

Example.

"You ought not to smoke right before the children, Henry," expostulated Mrs. Chinner. "Can't you see you're setting them a very bad example?"

"Oh, that's all right, my dear," replied her husband, easily. "If they follow your example of carrying pins in their mouth they'll never live long enough to be harmed by my example."—Syracuse Herald.

The Less of Two Evils.

"No," said Willie Wishington, "I am not going to protest against any methods of taxation. What's the use?"

"Well," answered Miss Cayenne, "Perhaps you are right. You would rather let them tax your property than tax your mind."—Washington Star.

Troubles of Those Who Try.

They tell us just to do our best
And be exempt from woe;
The things we think are best the rest
May not see that way, though;
The hero may be prone to blow
About poor fights he's fought;
The gentle poet may not know
His masterpiece from rot.
—Chicago Record-Herald.

A RAP FOR SHAKESPEARE.

"Oh! I just dote on Shakespeare," confessed the young woman.

"Shakespeare?" snorted the young man with the cynical countenance. "Why, I read his plays the other night, and all that he ever done was to string together a lot of quotations."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Same Old Story.

Now is the maid sent by her sire
To mountain, wood and shore,
Where she will very soon acquire
Engagement souvenirs by the score.
—Chicago Daily News.

A Shirty Man.

Father—There goes Mr. Plutor, one of the richest men in London. When he came up from the country he had only one shirt to his back, and now he's got millions.

Son—Lor, father! what does he do with 'em—he can't wear more than one at a time, can he?—Ally Sloper.

Best Cause Within Reach.

Church—I overheard you quarreling as I passed your door the other day; you should remember that no gentleman ever quarrels with a woman without good cause.

Gotham—I had good cause.

"What?"

"The woman I was quarreling with is my wife."—Yonkers Statesman.

Letting Her Down Easy.

"But is she pretty?"

"Well, I don't believe in talking about a girl's looks behind her back. Her father's worth about $2,000,000 and they've taken her to Europe twice without bringing back any titles, so you can form your own opinion."—Chicago Record-Herald.

Has Him Well in Hand.

Clara—Half the time he says he doesn't know whether I love him or not, about one-quarter he hopes that I do, and the rest he thinks I may, and in addition he is nearly always utterly miserable.

Maud—Well, I'm glad you're making such a success of the affair.—Tit-Bits.

Cut Rate.

Witsor—What did the surgeon charge for performing the operation?

Kidder—Well, you see he and I belong to the same lodge, and he made a cut rate for me.—Chicago American.

The Only One.

"Are you sure you can support a family?"

"I only want the girl."—Judge.

Well, Hardly.

"Is this your first love affair," he asked, tenderly.

The up-to-date feminine representative of this progressive age looked at him scornfully.

"Heavens!" she exclaimed, "I'm almost 18 years old. What do you think I've been doing all my life?"

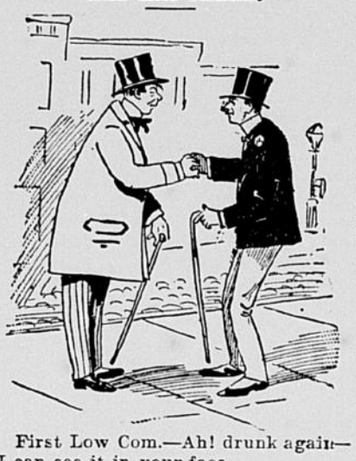
"I mean," he corrected, hastily, "is this your first for this year?"

"You must think I'm slow," she answered. "This is the third."—Chicago Post.

A Good Thermometer.

The very best thermometer,
And one quite sure to please,
Must just insure a temperature
Of seventy degrees.
—Philadelphia Record.

HAD HIM THERE.



First Low Com.—Ah! drunk again—I can see it in your face.

Second Low Com.—Dear me! First time I ever knew my face was a looking-glass.—Ally Sloper.

A Stay-at-Home.

The impecune mused: "By the sea,
Or to the mountains, shall I go?
Or shall I hie me peacefully
To some quaint rustic place I know?"
Alas! for musings mused in vain;
He thought the trouble 'twas to pack,
And putting up his cash again
Remained in top floor, hall room, back.
—N. Y. Herald.

A Barber's Woeful Work.

Bilkins—See here! That hair-cut you just gave me has made me look like an ape, or a buboon, or some other frightful creature.

Barber—Really, sir, you make von gread meestake.

Bilkins—No, I don't. I hadn't been out of your shop five minutes before three different fellows offered to introduce me to their best girls.—N. Y. Weekly.

The Danger Line.

"I want to take out some life insurance," said the caller, "unless you consider my occupation hazardous."

"What is your occupation?" asked the agent of the company.

"I am an automobile driver."

"That's all right. We only draw the line at people who live along the streets you travel over."—Chicago Tribune.

Appreciated at Last.

"What did you think of my graduation essay?" asked Marguerite.

"It made me very proud of you," answered her father. "I felt that I had not previously appreciated your true worth. You don't know how interesting and sensible that essay made your every-day conversation seem by comparison."—Washington Star.

In Search of Information.

Old Gentleman—So you think my daughter loves you, sir; and you wish to marry her?

Dudeleigh—That's what I called to see you about. Is there any insanity in your family?

Old Gentleman—No, sir; and there's not going to be any.—Tit-Bits.

Commercial Poetry.

Life is real; life is earnest;
Let us then improve the chance
To invest $1.20
In a nobby pair of pants.
—Baltimore American.

AMPLE REASON.

Kind Lady—What made you burst out crying like that, little man?

Little Man—Oo—oo—you've just sat down on my jam tart!—Ally Sloper.

Necessity.

With beef and corn so very nigh
That worry mars our sleep,
We'll soon eat terrapin and pie
Because they're rather cheap.
—Washington Star.

Direct from the Roof Garden.

"And so poor old Mr. Pussyman died of dropsy."

"Yes. I was at the funeral."

"Indeed? How was it?"

"Swell."—Chicago Record-Herald.

Had Shown Good Sense.

Hewitt—That rich old fool wouldn't let me marry his daughter.

Jewett—Well, he may be rich, and old, but he's no fool.—N. Y. Times.

The Growing Commercial Importance of Alaska

A Review of the Conditions That Have Forced Rapid Development in Recent Years.

THE growing importance of Alaska as a producer of not only the precious metals, but of food supplies, and its possibilities in regard to other industries and the rapid increase in its population seem to justify a somewhat detailed study of present conditions in that territory. This is especially suggested not only by reason of the rapid growth in population and rapid development of certain great industries in that section, but at the present moment by the fact that the recently enacted law of congress authorizes and requires the collection and publication of statistics of trade between Alaska and the United States.

In general terms, it may be said that Alaska, for which the United States paid $7,200,000 in 1867, has since that time supplied furs, fish, and gold amounting to about $150,000,000 in value, about equally divided between these three items; that the investments of capital from the United States in Alaska are probably $25,000,000, with a large additional sum invested in transportation to that territory; and that the shipments of merchandise to Alaska now aggregate about $15,000,000 per annum, and have aggregated since the purchase nearly or quite $100,000,000. Meanwhile the population has grown from an estimated 30,000 at the date of the purchase to 32,052 in 1890, and 63,592 in 1900, and an estimated 75,000 at the present time.

The gross area of Alaska is, according to the census of 1900, 590,804 square miles. The governor of Alaska in a recent report states that this is equal to the combined area of the 20 states of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi and Tennessee. The governor's report for 1901 states that the area in acres is 369,529,600.

The principal industries of Alaska at the present time are furs, fisheries and mining. During the first half of the period since it came into the control of the United States the fur business, and especially that of the fur seals, was the most important industry and attracted most attention. The Pribilof islands, lying north of the Aleutian chain, are the principal breeding grounds of the Pacific fur seal herd, and from them the company to which the islands were leased took real skins at the rate of 100,000 per annum for several years; but in recent years the number has fallen to less than one-fourth that figure, and the total number of seal skins taken on the Pribilof islands since the purchase of Alaska is about 2,200,000, the value of which is estimated at $35,000,000. The estimated value of other furs taken in Alaska meanwhile is about $17,000,000, making the results of this industry since the purchase of Alaska about $52,000,000.

Fisheries form, and for several years have formed, one of the most important industries of Alaska. In the earliest years of control by the United States the fur business, especially that of the fur seals, occupied the principal attention and proved the most valuable industry of that new and undeveloped area. Within a comparatively short time, however, it became apparent that a great undeveloped source of wealth and of food supply for the people of the United States was to be found in the fish, with which the waters along the coasts of Alaska were plentifully supplied. Even under the Russian regime a few shipments of salted salmon from Alaska to California and the Sandwich islands had occurred; but it was not until several years after the control of this territory by the United States that the value of this great food supply was realized. In 1878 the first attempt at canning salmon in Alaska was made by a San Francisco association, which established a cannery near Sitka, and this was followed by the establishment of another cannery by a San Francisco firm, the pack of these two establishments ranging at about 13,000 cases annually up to 1881, the annual value of the pack averaging about $50,000. From that period the number of canneries rapidly increased and the area over which they were extended widened, until at present there are 30 companies and individual packers occupying 55 canneries and 12 salteries, the companies having a capitalization of $22,000,000; value of plants, including vessels, $12,000,000; number of salmon taken, 31,000,000; output, 2,029,269 cases and 18,942 barrels, making an equivalent of about 100,000,000 pound of salmon packed and shipped from the Alaskan waters in 1901. The fishing grounds extend from the southeastern point of Alaska northwardly past the Aleutian chain and into Bristol bay just north of the extension of Alaska, the Bristol bay and Behring sea production far exceeding that of southeastern Alaska. The value of the salmon pack of Alaska in 1901 is estimated at $6,926,167, exceeding in quantity and value that of any preceding year. Laws have been enacted requiring those engaged in this industry to establish hatcheries for the artificial production of the salmon.

The mining industry is chiefly confined at present to gold. Silver has been found in various localities, but little attention has been given up to the present time to attempts to develop the mines. The gold mines are in three distinct localities and of three distinct classes. The oldest in point of discovery and operation is that located in southeastern Alaska, where large quantities of quartz of very low grade exist, assaying from $1.50 to $2.50 per ton, and at this point has been located the largest quartz mill in the world, with several smaller ones in the immediate vicinity. The second great mining field is on the Yukon river, far in the interior of Alaska, some parts of it nearly upon the arctic circle. The first and most important discoveries were in the Klondike field, on the Upper Yukon, in 1896, and explorations and prospecting developed large gold fields along the Yukon west of the Klondike in Alaska and in United States territory; and these were the subjects of great attention during 1897, 1898, 1899 and 1900. In 1898 gold was discovered at Cape Nome, on the western coast of Alaska just south of Cape Prince of Wales, the point on the Alaskan coast nearest to the coast of Asia, and during the last three seasons the Nome gold field has received much more attention than those of either southeastern Alaska or the Yukon field. The gold production of Alaska in 1901 is estimated by the geological survey at $200,000 for Seward peninsula, which includes Cape Nome and the adjacent country; $2,545,000 for southeastern Alaska; $616,000 for Yukon river; $50,000 for Cooks inlet and $55,000 for the Copper river district.

Transportation facilities are, like many other features of conditions in Alaska, greatly improved. Ocean travel from Puget sound to Skaguay averages during the summer season one boat per day, the vessel being of 1,000 tons upward. From Skaguay to White Horse, over the mountains, the trip is now made by rail, and transportation rates for freight are about one-tenth what they were prior to the construction of the railway. From the terminus of the railway to Dawson semiweekly trips are made by steamer during the summer and during the winter the trip is made by stage. Lodging houses are established along the route from the terminus of the railway to Dawson, the cost of meals and lodging averaging about six dollars per day. In summer the trip is made by steamer, the fare averaging $75, including meals. During the summer the trip from Dawson is made to the mouth of the Yukon by steamer. The steamboats on the Yukon river are modern, well equipped, and affording satisfactory conveniences for the comfort and pleasure of the traveler. Travel to Nome is chiefly by steamers from Sitka to Unalaska in the Aleutian chain, and thence northward to St. Michael and Nome.

MAP OF ALASKA SHOWING LOCATION OF PRINCIPAL TOWNS.