

People as a consequence, have come to consider this intellectual disease as the normal state of the public mind and make of religion a matter of mere feeling, dilettantism and even fashion. No wonder then, that in matters of education we should witness the most contradictory and divergent views.

We Catholics who realize the necessity of true principles, because we do not build any edifice on the sand, we alone offer to the world the grand spectacle of a united body, we make on every philosophical, religious and social question, a firm and uncompromising stand for principles which we hold to be the only true ones, and can give reasons for them.

What are, then, the true principles of education?

1. True education must impart to the child a moral as well as an intellectual training.

2. That moral training must, of all necessity, be founded on the idea of an Omnipotent Being, Creator of mankind and therefore Ruler of our hearts.

3. Since Almighty God deigned to reveal himself to mankind and founded a Church to continue in all times the work of his divine teaching, true education must recognize the teaching of God's Church, that is to say, the teaching of such a Church as shall be found, after serious inquiries, to be the only true Church founded by God.

That true education must imply a moral as well as an intellectual training is evident from the fact that man is a moral as well as a rational being. Endowed with free will, man is liable either to obey the dictates of his conscience or to follow the suggestions of his passions. All depends on his will. If his will is directed toward the fulfillment of his duties towards God, towards his neighbor and himself, he is doing right. If on the contrary, the tide of his passions carries him along the pathway of injustice, vice and immorality he is doing wrong. Social life stands on public order, and as the unjust, vicious and immoral man is sapping the foundations of public order, the sentiment of self-preservation, to say nothing of the will of God, shows plainly to society its duty to give to the child who will be a man to-morrow, a sound and forceful moral training.