The Study of Philosophy as an Element in Education.

BY FANCIULLO.

No. III.—Physical Education.
(Continued.)

But that these and other exercises may have the desired effect, they must be taken judiciously. For example, those exercises which bring all the muscles into vigorous action at the same time should not be indulged in too frequently nor too long at a time; otherwise the blood which always endeavors to supply the demand of the muscles for nourishment may be too heavily taxed and finally exhausted. For this reason severe exercise should not be taken after meals, while the process of digestion is going on, as the blood is then chiefly directed to the digestive organs, and if called away by muscular exertion, digestion will be weakened, and the body thereby deprived of a portion of its full supply of nourishment. We must not however be over particular in this matter, as nature herself will warn us when too many of the muscles are exercised at once; for in such a case we will experience a sense of general weariness, which will serve as an admonition for us to discontinue our exertion for a time. The reason of this weariness is that the supply of new material to the muscles is not equal to the waste occasioned by the vital action and the friction produced by exertion, in consequence of which the muscles grow weak instead of strong, and hence a continuance of exercise in such a case would be injurious. We must then rest the muscles and thus stop the waste by friction till the system recovers its exhausted supply of nourishment. This applies equally when only one or two of the muscles are brought into action. Another very important condition of healthy exercise is, that it afford pleasure to the mind; for it is the mind which furnishes stimulus to the muscles, through the nervous apparatus, and hence if the mind is not pleased with the exercise, it will withhold that stimulus or supply it grudgingly and, consequently, very little benefit will be derived from such exercise. The following lines by Dr. Armstrong are quite apropos to this subject:

"In whatever you sweat,
Indulge your taste, some love the manly toils,
The tender some, and some the graceful dance;
Others, more wary, range the purple heath,
Or skied stumbles, where, from field to field,
The sounding courses urge their laboring flight,
He chooses best whose labor entertain
His vacant fancy most. The toil you hate
Fatigues you soon, and scarce improves your limbs."

But, unquestionably, the most important condition is that the exercise be taken in pure, fresh air. For, as we remarked, when speaking of respiration, we inhale oxygen with the air, which serves to purify the blood, and in exhaling, we throw off carbonic acid gas, produced by combustion in the lungs, and the hydrogen left after the oxygen of the air inhaled has been exhausted. If the air, which we breathe, is vitiated, that is, if it does not possess a due proportion of oxygen, or if the carbonic acid gas and hydrogen are in excess, respiration cannot fulfill its proper office; the blood does not receive a due supply of the purifying principle, while the very matter exhaled from the lungs as useless or injurious, is again taken into them, thus adding to the impurities of the blood. This blood, with its freight of impurities, is circulated through the system, (more abundantly during exercise); deposits a vitiated material for the formation of the solids, and thus generates disease. For this reason all places of public resort—theatres, lecture halls, churches, schoolrooms, and especially gymnasiums, should be well ventilated, in order that there may be a constant supply of pure air for the lungs.
and that the vitiated matter thrown off in exhalation may be carried away by the passing air. A neglect of this precaution causes many a pale check, and hurry many a weak-lunged victim to an early grave.

To sum up results: Prudent exercise taken in the pure, fresh air, produces a more rapid and full respiration; the blood is supplied with a greater abundance of the purifying principle, and is consequently of a better quality; the digestive organs are stimulated to healthy action; the circulation of the blood is increased, and therefore a greater amount of healthy material is deposited in the muscles and other solids of the body; the whole structure is thus strengthened and invigorated, life prolonged, and rendered more enjoyable, and the individual made capable of greater efforts for his own and others' benefit.

On the other hand, although exercise is of paramount importance, the precautionary department of physical education cannot be neglected with impunity; for it is evident that, however well we discipline the body by exercise, if we, by imprudence, place obstacles to the good effects of this discipline, we must be prepared to suffer the consequences, which in this case will be the defeat of our efforts to render our bodies sound and vigorous. Hence the two departments go hand-in-hand, and exercise a mutual influence upon each other, and hence a proper attention to both is necessary to gain the object of physical education.

A complete physical education includes: first, a knowledge of all the principles of health, or, rather, a knowledge of all the functions of the body on which health depends; secondly, a knowledge of all the means necessary to secure a natural and healthy performance of these functions and prevent any derangement of them; thirdly, a facility, acquired by practice, of applying these means properly in all circumstances. With such a physical education, sickness would be as rare as "angels' visits" among men; for every case of sickness, except the decay of old age, is the result of some violation of the laws of health. Now as the majority of men would certainly preserve themselves from sickness if they could, the prevalence of disease and pain shows the difficulty, if not impossibility, of acquiring a complete physical education. Therefore we say that our education in this department is complete when we know and observe the laws of health to such an extent as to keep ourselves in what is usually called a state of general good health.

This species of completeness may be acquired by all, if they will only give a reasonable degree of attention to what we have termed the precautionary and disciplinary departments of physical education. If men would but act reasonably in these particulars, all those serious forms of disease, which are now so common as scarcely to excite sympathy, would become as rare as roses in the frigid zone; suicide would be unknown; life would be a greater blessing, and be better appreciated than it is in a great number of cases at the present time; the money expended on hospitals, medicines, etc., might be employed in promoting the general happiness of society; man, in fine, would be, more than he is now, the noble being which God made him, and be better qualified to fulfill his mission in life, and secure that eternal happiness which is the ultimate end of his being.

Having now seen the nature, object and divisions of the three departments of Education, we proceed to show their connection, mutual influence and relative importance. This will form the subject of our next paper.

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**Scientific Department.**

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No 4.—A Word about the Study of Zoology.

The intimate and important relations which exist between man and the different branches of the animal kingdom, must ever be a strong incentive for young men to become acquainted with the forms, structure, metamorphosis, habits and dispositions of the various animated beings that surround them. They would be thus better fitted to act intelligently, in availing themselves of the benefits to be derived particularly from those species that are susceptible of improvement by domestication; and, at the same time, be enabled successfully to maintain that influence and control over the community of inferior organisms which their superior physical and mental developments, as well as their interests, suggest and demand.

Dependent, as we are, to a great extent, on the animal kingdom for many of the comforts and luxuries of life, it is evident that the importance of a thorough investigation of the laws which govern this magnificent creation of living organic beings, and of their relations to man's happiness and prosperity, cannot be too highly esteemed.
But an accurate knowledge of the features, food, development and mode of existence of the various animals with which we meet in our daily pursuits, as well as a clear perception of their varied relations to the vegetable and inorganic kingdoms of nature, is indispensable, if we would derive practical and constant benefits from them, by making them subservient to our material interest.

In an educational point of view, a systematic knowledge of the animals inhabiting our regions, their habits, and their relations to man and the surrounding world, would furnish ample matter for reflection and study. We are warranted in predicting that Natural History, simply as a means of mental culture and mental development, is destined to take, at no distant day, a high rank among the studies considered essential, in our institutions of learning, to a successful training of the intellectual powers.

Aside from all those considerations, the study of animated nature has a still higher significance—the world of organic beings, as the material expression of the ideas of the Creator—the Supreme Intelligence of the universe—is certainly most worthy of the reverent exercise of the highest faculties of the human mind.

J. C. C.

Letter from Very Rev. E. Sorin, S. S.C.,

To Rev. Father Cobb, President of the University.

PARIS, Jan. 2, 1869.

Rev. Dear Father:—The thought struck me today, that I could break, this year, the monotony of your distribution of premiums at the close of the scholastic exercises, in June. Since the beginning of the institution, we have invariably rewarded our students with an assortment of books, more or less varied, sometimes of little interest to the pupils or their parents.

This year I would wish to make a change, and choose myself here, in this great metropolis of refined tastes in every department, what I would consider, not only a novelty, but something which most of your best students would prize more than books which they can purchase in every book store around.

Since all the rich families have returned from their country seats to the city, and especially since the opening of the holidays of the season, the stores and magasins in Paris have brought out such a wonderful variety of beautiful things, particularly suited to young France, that I make no hesitation in saying that, as far as premiums are concerned, I will make your distribution far more interesting than any previous one ever held at Notre Dame.

But I must have the whole arrangement of that portion of your programme to myself, next June: I mean I will give, myself, all the premiums, of my own choice, to the students you will designate, from the first to the last, from the tallest Seniors to the smallest of my dear little Minims; I must have the monopoly of the affair, instead of the old monotony. You will merely inform me in time of the exact number you intend distributing.

If Mother Angela, to whom you may mention my proposal, agrees to it for St. Mary’s, I will likewise take upon myself the same responsibility for the young ladies of the Academy. I feel that I will secure a great many fervent prayers for a safe voyage when I put to sea again for Notre Dame and St. Mary’s.

Should my proposition meet with a very favorable reception at both places, I might perhaps extend it even to some of our principal schools. Indeed, I would be very much pleased to assist this year, successively for a few weeks, at the exhibitions in all our houses, if an itinerary can be traced out and arrangements made, so as to give a full day to each place; and there again I would claim the same privilege viz., to give, myself, to every child entitled to a reward, something from Paris or from Rome.

I know, if you put it to the votes of the future recipients at Notre Dame and St. Mary’s, I shall be elected by acclamation to provide here in Paris for all the premiums to be distributed next June.

The only thing I will now require of you, and all concerned, is to forward me at your convenience the same amount you generally expend for that purpose.

In haste, and with the best wishes of the season,

Your devoted in Christ,

E. SORIN.

It is unnecessary to say that we accept con amore the above arrangement of Very Rev. Father General.

W. C.

The students who are preparing themselves for the study of Law should not delay giving their names to the Prefect of Studies. It must be well understood that none except those who belong to the highest Classes of the Classical or Scientific courses should apply.
History.

An Essay read before the St. Cecilia Philomathaeian Association by one of its youthful members.

A few words on the project of making history a department of the Association may not be amiss. Inseparably connected with our mental progress, during the present and in the future, it cannot fail to be of the greatest interest and importance to us.

History in the first place is a true and systematical record of events which have occurred in the progress and development of a nation or country; moreover, it is philosophy teaching by example. As being such a record it marks the progress, and necessarily contains all important and minor details of the construction of the different governments which have existed from time immemorial.

Now, in former ages there were very wise men, who gave the primary rules of the constitutions we now have as models to imitate; they certainly had imperfections, which only the progress of time and the labors of men could eradicate. Furthermore, all governments are founded on these rules which were laid down by the ancients, more especially on those of Solon. History has brought down to us these principles, together with all their modifications and amendments, as applied to different cases of necessity. As these have all been brought down compactly, it affords us modes of vigorous comparison and enable us to deduce the most solid ideas in regard to Government, besides which, they gives us modes of eloquence, the minute details of great improvements in Sciences, Arts and Literature, thus affording the greatest scope for intellectual nobility.

I cannot help but quote as an example the epitome of the history of Greece and Rome. Those beautiful, yes, sublime models of literature, their immense progress in arts and sciences, bring vividly to our minds the benefit to be derived from the study of the subject of which I speak—Chrysostome, Demosthenes and Cicero, those world-renowned orators; Michael Angelo and Canova those high-minded artists; and St. Augustine, together with the more ancient writers who shed the lustre of their brilliant literary genius on the enraptured world, all have transmitted their works, or at least all the details of their works, through the medium of history. Needless would it be for me to enlarge on this subject; but I only bring it before you in order that you may consider the great impulse it has given to mankind.

History is no longer merely esteemed an ornamental branch, and he who would enter into society without its knowledge, would fail ignominiously. As our entrance into society is the key of our future, and as we see that history plays so important a part in it, it would seem, and in fact really is, indispensable to our way to come. You see, therefore, its actual necessity; let us try to improve our time in this department of the St. Cecilian; and if we enter into it in the proper spirit, and continue so to remain, we will in after years thank the Association for the help it gave us and gratefully remember it in our successful days.

D. J. W.

Arrival of Students at Notre Dame.

JANUARY 26TH.
John D. Hogan, Chicago, Ill.
Denis J. Hogan, " "

JANUARY 27TH.
Thomas A. Dillon, Joliet, Ill.

JANUARY 29TH.
Edward McDonough, Lebanon, Ky.
Thomas A. Garrity, Chicago, Ill.

Tables of Honor.

JANUARY 16TH.

SENIOR DEPARTMENT.

JUNIOR DEPARTMENT.

MINOR DEPARTMENT.

SENIOR DEPARTMENT.
THE SCOLASTIC YEAR.

JUNIOR DEPARTMENT.

MINIM DEPARTMENT.

The Examination.

During the last days of the preceding week, Compositions were written in each Class on the matters studied during the session. The object of these Compositions was sufficiently explained in the report of the Committee on Examination, which appeared in our last number; and though they have entailed extra labors on both the Professors and the students, still these labors have been fully rewarded. To the credit of the former, it is justice to say that the Compositions have been generally good, full of information not easily or usually obtained in an oral examination. The system of teaching, the good training of the Class, has been more strikingly brought out, and the difficulty formerly experienced in classifying the students, according to their proficiency, lessened. Be it said, moreover, that in particular cases the standing of some has been greatly elevated by means of the Composition; for, as the notes will testify, the written part of the Examination has proved most satisfactory.

Perhaps this result is owing to the fact that abundance of time for thinking, and the proper arrangement of the subjects under consideration, was given in one case, whilst in the other it was necessarily limited to a few minutes, allowing but a short pause between the questions and the answers.

However, as far as we know, from the reports of Examination and the various lists of notes sent to the Director of Studies, the Examination—both written and oral—has been very successfully undergone by the majority of the students.

It was impossible to gather in time for publication in this number all the notes deserved by each student, such work demanding the compilation of over 70 lists of notes, some of which have not yet been handed in; but we will surely have everything ready for our next number, which will be sent to the parents instead of the regular Monthly Bulletin.

Mr. Wm. T. Johnson, who graduated in the classical course here last year, has returned to his Alma Mater from the University of Michigan. We need not say that Mr. Johnson has formerly earned by his gentlemanly qualities as a student a warm welcome from his Professors and companions.


This very valuable book is intended to supply a want long felt in our schools, viz: a system of outlines of composition by which the young unpracticed writer may acquire the habit of thinking and properly arranging his thoughts. The book is divided into two parts. Part I, intended for beginners, contains 41 simple subjects carefully exhibited in outline, and three of them written out in full, as examples. Part II, for more mature minds, containing 99 subjects of general interest, also in outline, which present to the student a wide range for the exercise of his originality and ingenuity in their treatment.

Such a book will be warmly welcomed in our class rooms and will prove a valuable aid to our young writers.

The reports of the St. Cecilia Philomathean Society have been unavoidably crowded out for the last three weeks. We shall due them full justice next week.

SAINT MARY'S ACADEMY.

St. Mary's, Jan. 24th, 1869.

Table of Honor, Sr.


Honorable Mention.

Graduating Class.—Misses L and T. Tong, K. Livingston, A. Ewing, E. Crouch, K. Cunnea, J. Hines.


Second Senior.—Misses A. Medill, C. Thomp-
THE SCHOLASTIC YEAR.


Third Senior.—Misses M. Toberty, A. Boyles, E Ruger, M. Kirwin, M. Shirland, S. Bebe, R. Joslin, M. Dillon.


Second.—Misses H. Sprague, P. Smith, J. Davis, A. Minnick, E. Simms, K. Kline, M. Vanhorn, M. Minor.

Third.—Misses J. Denny, C. Hoerber, M. Clune, A. Matthews, E. Seiler.

Table of Honor, Jr.

Misses L Jones, M. Minn, L. Thomson, J. Walton, J. McNamara, B. Willson, R. Canoll and A. Garrity.

Honorable Mention.

First Preparatory.—Misses L. McKenney, and A. Dunlap.

Second.—Misses A. Boyles, A. Wood and M. Durant.

Third.—Misses B. Meyers, A. Metzger and M. Letourneau.

First Class, Jr.—Misses J. Wilder and M. McNamara.

Second Class, Jr.—Misses B. Henry, A. Decamp and M. Gildersleeve.

SAINT MARY'S, Jan. 16, 1869.

On last Friday the pupils at St. Mary's had the satisfaction of presenting their long deferred New Year's greeting to Mother Provincial, whose previous absence had quite disarranged their programme. The following was the order of the entertainment:

Grand March.............. Miss E. Lilly
Welcome Song and Chorus.... Miss L. Smythe and the Pupils

The Twelve Offerings, or Gems of 1869, by the following young ladies:

January.............................. Miss E. Crouch
February.............................. Miss A. Carpenter
March................................. Miss S. Gleason
April................................. Miss R. Rettig
May................................. Miss A. Ewing
June................................. Miss E. Ewing
July................................. Miss C. Bertrand
August.............................. Miss L. Chouteau
September......................... Miss N. Young
October............................. Miss L. McNaman
November......................... Miss C. Foote
December......................... Miss K. Medill

The above young ladies, dressed in appropriate costume, formed a circle, which revolved slowly, and as each appeared before Mother Provincial she recited a short verse descriptive of the Gems peculiar to the month represented.

MISS E. CROUCH.

We have come, dear Mother, now to bring
One humble, loving offering;
And wish to you, whom we revere,
The choicest gifts of this New Year,
And if our prayers can augur obtain,
For you rich blessings we will gain.

The feast of our Lord, and His Mother dear,
We'll call the gems of this New Year,
And well offer you each precious gem,
To deck your heavenly dwelling;
And now with loving, pure intent,
Each one her gift will present.

I will January bring
Like purest diamonds sparkling,
Icicles, frost, and glittering snow
'Neath noonday sun or moonlight glow
Like million diamonds, gaudily set
In nature's dazzling coronet.

In the annual circle, well defined
By Holy Church, this month you'll find
Forms a link glorious, bright,
Girded with a heavenly light;
Composed of mystic gems whose rays
Would blind a merely human gaze,
For Faith alone, with veiled eyes,
Could view these gems without surprise.

Seeing in each holy mystery
God's power, love and majesty:
The "Circumcision"—gem whose light
Shone to illumine the Jewish night,
Is followed by the "Orient Star"—
That guides the Magi from afar;
The "Name of Jesus" with awe, Faith sees,
Brings heaven, earth, and hell on bended knees;
These mystic gems with joy we view
As treasures Heaven offers you,
From which to draw peace, comfort, light—
Those heavenly jewels rich and bright.

MISS A. CARPENTER.

The second month, cold February,
Brings as a modest tribute
A pearl of radiance, softly bright,
Gleaming with a silvery light;
The earth overspread with purest snow,
A fitting emblem seems to show
Of supernatural innocence, combined
With obedience of the heart and mind.

The "Purification" pearl—long feasted,
Assemblies Patriarch, Prophet, Priest,
THE SCHOLASTIC YEAR.

To view the Mother and the Son.
The Immaculate and the "Holy One,"
Submit to laws for slaves designed,
Refus'd from bond; that did not bind.
"Nonn simitra" Simeon sings,
As Mary to his bosom brings
Her Son Divine. With turtle-doves
And lighted taper, on she moves—
Fulfills the law, redeems her son,
And clasps again her "Holy One."
May this pearl of Jesus to you ever bring
The pearl of peace; that you may sing
With Simeon, when all time shall cease,
"Dismiss thy servant, Lord, in peace."

MISS S. GLEASON.

March, a purple amethyst,
By piercing winds so rudely kissed,
To crown a thorny diadem,
The feast of the "Incorrupt Word" *
By Mother Church is now deferred,
The "solemn Pasch"—Gethsemani —
Three hours of mortal agony;
Betrayed denied, that cruel morn;
The scourge, the purple robe of sorrow,
On which to rest our weeping eyes;
TheIp form the purple amethyst
To crown a thorny diadem.

MISS R. RETTIG.

This vernal month, with its gentle showers,
Its joyous sunshine, buds and flowers,
Prepares this year a setting gem
To fill our heart's desire.

MISS A. EWING.

Bright, beauteous month, what shall I say
Of thee, O joyous, glorious May?
My dazzled eyes in thee doth find
A cluster of all gems combined
Our Lady may, with justice claim
The month that bears her holy name,
And thus its name to make bright.

MISS E. EWING.

O joyous, ardent month of June!
All nature seems in sweet attire
With the grandeur of this peerless gem,
This ruby set in diadems.

MISS C. BERTRAND.

Blest month, all ruby with the glow
Of Precious Blood, whose constant flow
Expands, delights, and doth impart
Exquisite joy to Jesus' Heart.
Here fancy fails—how shall I dare
This "Precious Blood" to speak of it?
In silent awe, I bend the knee!
This month shall be a rich chalice be,
Set with emeralds, so soft and bright
As not to dazzle human sight;
The "Visitation," a mild-hued gem
That decks Our Lady's diadem,
Dost now this holy chalice grace;
And dear "Mount Carmel" finds a place
To bring salvation to your neighbor.

MISS L. CHOUTEAU.

Month radiant with joy and spiritual light,
"It is good to be here," for Tabor is bright
With the glory of Jesus. The scene let us see—
Earth is flooded with light by the glory of Mary
Between these two sapphires "Our Lady of Snows" With a pure gentle radiance modestly glows,
Linking these gems with a silvery chain:

Thus, Jesus and Mary united remain.

When His jewels He shows—

On Mary, a similar gem He bestows,

And thus in this month two, sapphires shine:

Jesus, transfigured, a Sapphire Divine

The "Assumption of Mary" His mother, our Queen

Is Mary's bright sapphire, sublime yet so one.

These sapphire, dear mother, we press to your view,

His is Orient red. Our Lady's is blue

Accept, with the wish, when oppressed with hard labor,

That Je-us may give you a view of Mount Tabor;

That "Our Lady's Assumption," that sapphire blue,

May shed its bright radiance, dear mother, on you.

MISS K. YOUNG.

September I offer, 'tis mild, sweetly bright,

Its jewels are ambers, of pale golden light.

First the "Birthday of Mary," then Her sweet "Holy Name,"

Dear precious gems, our devotion may claim;—

Then her Son's "Holy Cross," with joy is praised,

Then Mary as "Mother of Sorrows" is praised;

Then, "Our Lady of Mercy," so mild in her ways,

Bids the prisoner rejoice in her adorning rays.

This circle of ambers, so peacefully bright,

Sends on this sweet month a radiant light.

Whenever these jewels are struck by hard blows,

They send forth a fragrance, surpasing t.e rose;

And when they're subjected to exceeding great heat

Aromatics of India could never compare

With the odors exhaled by these ambers so sweet.

Then accept them, dear mother and may there arise

From each sorrow you suffer, from each sweet sacrifice

A precious aroma. When, by charity heated.

"Rock Me to Sleep" Miss L. Leoni

Address from the Junior Department.

When His jewels lie strewed—

Thus, Jesus and Mary united remain.

And thus in this month two, sapphires shine:

By the "Glorious Mysteries," easier a rich light;

Thus may the five ambers, fragrant bright,

"Wild Flowers"—sung by Miss C. Davenport

Accept our offerings. Mother dear.

And you rest-bathed in their light—at the foot of God's

Thus, dear mother, when walking 'mid darkness and gloom,

May the rays of this topaz your pathway illuminate.

MISS KATE MEDILL.

Rich month, to contain two jewels so fair,

Two gems so exquisite, so brilliant, so rare;

First, a radiant diamond, gem of the first water,

Jesus, making His glory and honor her own vast;

Those gems so mysteriously, fondly entwined,

The dear Babe of Bethlehem, a jewel divine—

These brilliant gems we present to your view,

May they every year your fervor renew.

And wish that this present year

May make this month with fervor having greeted

Our Mystic circle now completed,

Each month with lover having greeted

Our mother with its choicest gem,

You see we clothe at Bethlehem.

Accept our offerings, Mother dear,

And wish that through this present year

Dear Bethlehem with its brilliant light

May make this year—glad, glorious, bright!

Our mystic circle now completed.

Each month with lover having greeted

Our mother with its choicest gem,

You see we clothe at Bethlehem.

Accept our offerings, Mother dear,

And wish that through this present year

Dear Bethlehem with its brilliant light

May make this year—glad, glorious, bright!

"Wild Flowers"—sung by Miss C. Davenport

Address from the Junior Department.

″Rock Me to Sleep″.................Miss L. Neil

Department.

″Ye Pretty Birds″.................Miss J. Hynds

The programme being concluded, our Rev.

Chaplain, who had honored us with his presence,

made so many kind remarks, and in the name of

Mother Provincial thanked the young ladies

for the effort they had made in their behalf.

The dignitaries having retired, the pupils enjoyed a

social dance until nine o'clock; then all retired.