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Scholarship in the English Universities. The popular estimate on this subject in this country is apt to undergo enhancement from the distance.

It is shown, first, that not one of the nine great public schools, such as Rugby, Eton, &c., sends half of its boys to the Universities.

The great schools appear to me to fulfill very imperfectly the task of preparing boys for the University course.

The majority of the men who enter the University appear to have few intellectual tastes. It is not, as some assert, that they are prevented, by being compelled to study the classics, from following their natural bent.

We do not test their knowledge of ancient or modern history, or of geography, at matriculation.

Rev. W. H. Girdleston, M. A., Christ's College, Cambridge, says "the large majority of young men who enter college show a very superficial knowledge of Latin and Greek."

The two universities are evidently in equal condition in these respects. Rev. G. W. Kitchen, M. A., junior censor of Christ Church, Oxford, gives it as a matter of fact that a couple of plays of Euripides, a little Virgil, two books of

Euclid, or the like, form the occupation of a large part of our men during their first University year.

Another Oxford man, Rev. D. J. Thorpe, A. A., tutor of Oriel College, shows the effect of this state of things in lowering the general standard of scholarship.

There are many other causes which are affecting the value of education at the English universities. Americans need to know, for their own encouragement, how small a part of the brain-culture and brain-work of England is done in the universities.

The American Naturalist. A popular illustrated Magazine of Natural History. Published by the Essex Institute, Salem, Mass.

We shall not, of course, be misundestood. We do not want primary school children to be taught about Acalephs and Brachiopods; but we do want to see a generation even of primary teachers who can give a lesson from a beetle or a butterfly bush as readily as from a primer.

We do not examine the candidates in religious knowledge; but at the end of every term the junior members of the house are examined in some portion of the New Testament.

It is because our education system is topsy-turvy, a pyramid on its apex, a horse with the cart before him, that the mind, in contemplating educational matters, is sometimes filled with mingled feelings of disgust and despair.

committing to memory the pages of, say Worcester's Compendium of History? from learning the situation, on the map, of the Revillagigedo Islands? Or have precious fruits resulted from spending the best years of boyhood in learning with infinite pain and disgust the important distinctions in a dead language between ei with the indicative and ei with the optative, and the important fact that "the word before an enclitic, if proparoxytone or proteroparoxytone, adds an acute on the ultima," especially when nobody knows what the effect of that process was.

We hope our readers will pardon us this slight ebullition of spleen. Our chance has gone by, and we don't like the recollection of our own dire experience of "a good education."

We know it is said that the study of natural and physical science in the schools is impossible—that there are no means and appliances, no cheap apparatus, no collections, no text-books, no teachers.

But just as the demand created the supply of Latin grammars, so the demand when it comes—and may it come soon!—will create a supply of good natural histories.

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