The Normal Offering, Vol. 5, No. 4, May 1889

Bridgewater State Normal School

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MAY.

NORMAL

Offering.

1889.
Chauncy-Hall School.

The sixty-second year begins Sept. 18, 1889.

Thorough preparation is made for the Institute of Technology, for Business, and for College. In all classes Special Students are received. Particular attention to Girls and Young Children. Unusual care of health is taken.

The Normal Class for Training Kindergarten Teachers will re-open the second week in October.

The course comprises a study of Froebel's Gifts, Occupations, Songs, and Games, and of "The Child." Some manual in psychology in its relation to education is studied, and lessons in natural science are outlined. Physical exercises, based on the Delsarte system, are given by a competent teacher, and special lessons in Clay-Modelling. Ability to sing, a love for children, and a previous course of study in a High School or its equivalent, are requirements for admission to this class. The course is completed in June, when diplomas are given to those who have successfully followed the work, both in theory, and in actual practice in the Kindergarten.

Normal School graduates especially would be enabled, from their previous training, to obtain the full advantages of this course.

259 Boylston Street, Boston.

We do not wish to force the season, but we take pleasure in informing you that we are to have a special line of Ladies' and Gents' Tennis Shoes for the coming season. The Shoe adopted by the leading Tennis players in this country and abroad. R. Ferguson.

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STATIONERY.

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SONG OF THE CLOUDS.

Eternal clouds!
Rise we to mortal view,
Embodied in bright shapes of dewy sheen,
Leaving the depths serene
Where our loud-sounding Father Ocean dwells,
For the wood-crowned summits of the hills:
Thence shall our glance command
The beetling crags which sentinel the land,
The teeming earth,
The crops we bring to birth:
Thence shall we hear
The music of the ever-flowing streams,
The low, deep thunders of the booming sea.
La, the bright Eye of Day unwearied beams!
Shedding our veil of storms
From our immortal forms,
We scan with keen eyed gaze this nether sphere.

A RESERVATION SCHOOL.

WALTER BATTICE, SAC AND FOX TRIBE, I. T.

THE writer asks himself, What can I write of interest that will at least tend to draw some of our educated people into sympathy with Indian education.

Thinking that some of the many readers of the paper I have been requested to write for, are unacquainted with Indian education, the difficulties to be met by both teacher and pupils, I am induced to call your attention to an Indian school.

Picture within your mind if possible, a small boarding school remote from any influence of Christian teaching, of society, of railroad advantages, or of anything which should tend to lead the “child of nature” out of the conditions of his birth into an insight of true civilized domestic life. From the day of the child’s birth he is encompassed by a degrading atmosphere of superstition and vice, out of this he must be taken. Compare him, so unlike his pale-faced brethren who have always been constantly in contact with civilized modes of life, of action, of thought, of speech, in fact surrounded by a thousand beneficient influences which never operate upon the child in consideration. That this of course necessitates many difficulties the reader will see. He will also see the disadvantages under which the child labors and how much work must be done upon him before he is made an equal to his white brother.

Just think for a moment what must be taught to an Indian child, (all that which naturally comes to a white child by inheritance because of the environment, without the instructors aid) and this implies much patient love for humanity as God’s created.

If you were appointed as a teacher at the reservation school I have in mind your first duty would be to get the pupils which are to fill your school, because there are no compulsory school laws, consequently it depends upon your skilfulness and personal influence whether or not you have a good attendance, for at this point failure is generally at hand unless your aim is high. Before, however, attempting to catch the little Indians you are obliged to call a “grand council” at which school attendance will be debated and herein always appears a singularity, those who have children of school age are busily engaged in other pursuits of pleasure and happiness, and those, of course, who have not children of school age will necessarily say without any effort on their part, “Oh yes by all means the school must be tilled and we will send our children.” Great is the encouragement on your part, and now meditating over your plans in delightful anticipation, you suddenly find that your duty does not end here.

Your next duty will be, after the grand council to go to various villages for the purpose of gathering the promised pupils. This is done in wagons and the distance between the villages being in some cases several miles, it is better to take luncheon with you unless you give preference to Indian cooking, which I assure you is not always as good as many of my readers are used to. Perhaps you have just happened along when they are
indulging in one of their dog-feasts, and in which
dog-soup is served. Then you are going to an
Indian village accompanied by an Indian inter­
preter, and as you are approaching the village you
hear various sounds, drums and war-whoops, fear
arises, for you have probably heard and read of
their warlike actions and customs. You are sure
your fate is nigh its destination, finally you are
near enough to see their hideously painted faces
and adornments in which no one sees beauty ex­
cept the Indians. Your time has come to
see
these warlike people, you want to go back but
there is no way except to press onward, which is
very trying to those who have gained their knowl­
dge of the Indians in the wrong manner. Once
conquering an experience of this kind any fear of
the red man is over. The thought will naturally
come to you “Is there any hope in such speci­
mens of humanity,”

Yes! readers, only give them a chance and stand
them on their feet while young and I assure you
they will make good and helpful citizens of one
country.

In this village you will behold many bright
faced youths. Just before your appearance they
were busily engaged in a merry time, but are now
gazing with fear and wonder on the new comer.
Why? Because they have been told and in many
cases observed for themselves how dishonest and
cruel the white man is to the red race. But can
you picture to yourself the possible future of these
little ones, as you see the environments and the
chances of their becoming as degraded as their
parents, let them go without any attempt on your
part to rescue them? God forbid! but at this
point many have failed, it is hard and it takes
too much time!

After having driven your horses and hitched to
a rude fence which surrounds the village, you will
proceed into one of the lodges wherein you will
meet the mother of one of these girls and one of
these boys. The little girl grinning and yet fear­ing,
comes up to her mother to hear her supposed
fate, while the young boy comes up with an air of
indifference. But when the time comes, (after
you have held a long council with the mother and
have at last persuaded her to let them go to
school) you find them very reluctant to give up
the home of God’s divine nature, to enter into the
home of man’s artificial works. The very nature
of the two children is to decline the invitation
which you have so cordially given.

The parents of these children are aware that
the salvation of their down-trodden race is in the
education of their young, and have reluctantly
given consent to deliver them into the hands of
those whom they fear as an enemy.

The two are now in school dressed in white
man’s dress, the young brave has now short hair,
though he had a hard fight trying to save his long
flowing locks. It is said that when an Indian has
his hair cut, that it is good evidence of civilizing
him. The young girl and boy are very lonely in
their new home and it is useless for the teacher
to attempt to please them; the only way is to let
the Indians who attended school before them take
them in hand, you may try days and not teach
the child a thing. As time goes on these two
little ones are more accustomed to the ways of
civilized life and before they are aware they are
speaking the English language.

Though the children will understand you very
well, if one of them should get angry at you
the best thing is to let them alone awhile because
if you tell them to do a thing they will often stand
and say “I don’t understand,” but in most cases
they will remain silent. You cannot punish them
because next you would find them going home.
It is an absolute fact as the children learn more
English the more troublesome they are.

The parents of the children are constantly com­ing
around the school and asking to take their
children home two or three nights. This is a
great hindrance, because they lose more in one
night at home, than you can teach them in school
in a fortnight, they come back again all Indian
and no English.

I should like to say more especially at this time
when white settlers are coming into our country,
that this increases the danger of a teacher’s work
and he must necessarily be more earnest in his
attempt.

I will not fill up any more of your time, but in
conclusion let me say that the Indians have in­
deed begun to change with the changing times,
and are commencing to appreciate the fact that
they must be civilized, and as the Indians express
Editor Normal Offering:

There is quite a difference in the method of fitting up a city High School laboratory as contrasted with that of a country High School.

In the former there is something more than "good will" and a bare room to start with. I found a nice square room about 30x30 ft., in the basement, for the chemical laboratory, well finished and lighted, with water, steam, and gas for conveniences.

There was bench room for nine pupils to work, built up to the side of the room, with one sink for them all.

The physical laboratory was well fitted with cases, gas, and water. The apparatus was nearly all for lecture work, but of a very nice grade. It all works.

My work was to make the laboratories fitted for fifty pupils to do individual experimental work in each subject. One will find quite a task in making the list of supplies and apparatus.

My first work in the chemical laboratory was to extend the bench around three sides of the room, and on the fourth to put up shelves to cover the whole side. One half of the shelves is for the chemical supplies, and the other for glassware and occasional reagents for analytical work.

The shelf which came about 30 in. from the floor was made 18 in. wide to serve as a table, and those were 10 in. wide for large bottles and boxes, while those above were 6 in. wide for the ordinary sizes of bottles.

Underneath the 18 in. shelf there are boxes 10x12x15 in., with sliding covers for miscellaneous supplies, so that the shelves may look uniform. Each box has its label. I use a blue pencil to mark the labels, for 15 years' testing shows it to hold color better than ink. The benches are provided with drawers 5x24x30 in., divided into four compartments, and below each drawer is a closet with a shelf.

There was need of more bench-room, so a table was made 1½x72x72 in. top standing 36 in. high. A shelf is underneath top 18 in. from the floor. The gas for this table is supplied by an eight burner chandelier which drops within two feet of the middle of the top. The connections with the burners are made by rubber tubing. Boxes 10x15x18 in. with hinged covers and two compartments, take the place of the drawers, and the shelf serves in lieu of closets. This table accommodates eight pupils.

The fume closet was made on the bench next to the boiler chimney by putting a pot into the side of the chimney, and making a shed roofed box over it, with a sliding front hung by weights. The draught is sufficient to take one's hat up the chimney.

I think I hear you ask "Where are your sinks and faucets?" Do you remember your grandmother's old yellow nappy, in which she used to bake that Indian pudding? That is one of our sinks. Then too, the old small eared, wide throated, flat bottomed, yellow milk pitcher, with the blue and white bands around the bulge. It now serves as the water supply for that sink, and these are the models for thirty others. I expect that this is a retrograde movement of the "New Education." This fits us up with the aid of the ordinary simple apparatus of the laboratory, as tumblers, saucers, bottles, etc.

I find that anything really needed here in apparatus or fixtures is readily obtained, for the committee work on the practical basis.

CURRENT ARTICLES ON EDUCATION.

THE NORMAL OFFERING.

The Normal Offering.
Published monthly during the School Year, by the Lyceum of the Bridgewater State Normal School.

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Ex-members and graduates of the school are requested to keep us informed of their whereabouts, and of any other items of interest.

Articles for publication should be sent in before the 5th of the month.

Address communications to "The Normal Offering" Normal Hall, Bridgewater, Mass.

The Editors reserve the privilege of rejecting any articles which are not deemed satisfactory.

HENRY T. PRATT, Printer, Bridgewater, Mass.


NOT infrequently we hear students of this, as well as other schools, regret that so much time has to be spent in the elementary part of science work. That almost half the time must be used in teaching the names and habits of plants and animals, the simplest facts of mineralogy, chemistry, astronomy and physics, seems quite incredible to one who has not tried to teach these subjects. The teacher, however, finds that he must not only dwell upon these first principles, but in many cases must teach the very habit of observation.

The ambitious student may, indeed, feel that he has to go away hungry, having been permitted to only look upon the banquet for which he prepared himself, but such a result cannot be avoided while a narrow view of primary and grammar school work exists.

We believe that the time when reading and writing shall be taught in these schools not as an end, but a necessary means to the end, when min-
We have received the prospectus for the Twelfth Annual Session of the Martha's Vineyard Summer Institute. A. C. Boyden, A. M., is Instructor in Natural Science in the School of Methods. The growing reputation of this Institute for solid and thorough work, should insure a large attendance from the ranks of progressive teachers. Circulars may be obtained from Wm. A. Mowry, 50 Bromfield St., Boston.


WANTED. We will pay ten cents per copy for the NORMAL OFFERING for May 1887 and Jan. 1889, if sent to the Editor immediately.

VALUABLE REFERENCE BOOKS FOR A TEACHER’S LIBRARY.

The following works should be read in connection with the study of French and German.

CLASSIC FRENCH WRITERS.


CLASSIC GERMAN WRITERS.


*Karl Theodor Koerner, (1761–1813) a patriot of the War of Liberation. Leyer and Schwert was composed at the age of twenty-two, only an hour before he fell on the field of battle.

†Ernst Moritz Arndt, (1766–1851) the most popular of German patriotic lyricists. It has been said that his What is the German’s Fatherland I did more to unify Germany than the statescraft of Bismark or the sword of Von Moltke.
THE BRIDGEWATER NORMAL ASSOCIATION

B. N. A. CONVENTION.

THE Bridgewater Normal Association held its thirty-sixth convention, in Boston, at the Brunswick, May 11. After the customary social hour, dinner was served, followed by speeches from the Alumni and invited guests.

President A. C. Boyden, in his address of welcome, mentioned as causes of congratulation, the approaching Semi-Centennial Anniversary of the school, its steady growth through the fifty years, the hope of a new school building, and the recovery of our Principal from his late illness. He then introduced the Principal, Mr. A. G. Boyden, who in responding spoke of earnestness as the marked characteristic of Bridgewater and her graduates, from Mr. Tillinghast to the present day, "The work of this world is done by extraordinary people, extraordinary not in ability, but in earnest devotion to work."

Principal Boyden was followed by Hon. Horace E. Scudder, Chairman of the Board of Visitors, who expressed friendly regard for Bridgewater, and a just appreciation of her needs. Secretary Dickinson then spoke of the former condition of education in Massachusetts, and the marked improvement in that direction, due in no small degree, to the work of her Normal Schools.

Mr. N. T. Allen, of West Newton, referred to the recent discussion of corporal punishment, and in urging the importance of using it only as a last resort, quoted Horace Mann's words, "The minimum of punishment is the maximum of discipline."

Mr. Martin spoke of the large number of Bridgewater graduates, both men and women, that he found engaged in school supervision, and of the excellent results of their work. He hoped the younger graduates would in a few years occupy similar positions of trust.

Other speakers were Mr. Sweet of Portsmouth, N. H., Col. Oakman of Marshfield, Mr. Winship, and Prof. B. F. Clark of Brown University. The convention adjourned with a cordial invitation from the President to attend the Semi-Centennial at Bridgewater, next year.

That little " if "—the meanest word
In the whole language, without doubt!
So useless, hateful, mean, absurd—
Let's wipe it out!
LOCALS.
MISS F. A. NEWHALL, EDITOR.

—One of our assistant-editors has an alarm clock that keeps Lent and brings up Cole.

—Self-reliant Senior, (deriving Punitive). "Puny—puny—O, yes, that means weak—weak affections; that agrees with the definition."

—Who is the Socrates of the Senior class? The guesses range from F to L, but a majority seem to fix on Mr. F. as the person in question.

—Ex-Normal, (teaching a class of little ones).
"What is an anecdote?"
Pupil. "Something that has horns and butts."
—Instructor. "How do we use the term Affective Reason?"
Brilliant pupil. "In speaking of demented persons."

—The last of Mr. Corey's lectures on Wagner, his life and work was given Friday, May 3. The scope and execution of these musical lectures deserves high praise.

—A hint to our graduates. "No amount of paddling around in a Normal bath-tub will prevent some floundering when one breasts the ocean-wave of actual every-day teaching.

—On Tuesday, April 30, school was suspended in commemoration of Washington's inauguration. Interesting and beautiful union services were held at Central Square Church, also special services at the Trinity and Catholic churches.

—Some fourteen or fifteen students in Biology forego the delights of tennis, boating and baseball and are doing special elective work in dissection. The topics in Zoology have been revised and rewritten, and distinct courses marked out for lower, grammar and high school work.

—The following mournful refrain was recently heard echoing through the hall from No. — (Junior).

I took a few pieces of zinc
And put in the generator,
Added water, then put in the cork,
After pouring in H₂SO₄.
The action was not very brisk
When I put in H₂SO₄.
So I tried Nitric Acid, to see
If the thing wouldn't bubble up more.

As I wiped up the acid and zinc,
And swept up the glass from the floor,
I concluded I'd stick to directions
And try my own methods no more.

BASE BALL.

Formerly we have met with many discouragements in putting a good team in the field, but this year through the efforts of Mr. Parker and the liberality of teachers and students, we have collected enough money to begin in good shape. As there has been so much good material from which to select, and as they have all practiced and shown so much interest, it has been hard to decide whom to place upon the team. Every institution of learning of any importance has a ball team, and why should not a Normal School? The sport is healthy and exciting, requiring the player to be constantly on the alert and keep a cool head, strengthening his muscles and giving him true enjoyment, and for these reasons I hope the team will prove a success and receive every encouragement possible. If we could cover a little more ground and visit other places it would be a great help to us and would be appreciated.

Our first game occurred May 4 with the South Eastons, who were in all respects worthy opponents. Mr. Scully, '87, played with the visitors and we could plainly see that he had not forgotten the training received here. Of the game little need be said, we were defeated, though we outbatted our opponents. The error column has been omitted simply because the scorer became discouraged, but it is painfully necessary to say that we made enough to lose the game.

The Score:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>SOUTH EASTONS</th>
<th>NORMALS</th>
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<td><strong>AB. R. B. T.B.</strong></td>
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<td>Hopkins, c</td>
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<td>Manning, 1f</td>
<td>Hathaway, ss</td>
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<td>Scally, 3b</td>
<td>Parker, c</td>
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<td>Curran, p</td>
<td>Paul, 1f</td>
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<td>Cliberty, 2b</td>
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<td>Swift, 1b</td>
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<td>French, ss</td>
<td>Bodfish, 1b</td>
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<td>Drake, 1f</td>
<td>Norton, 1f</td>
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<td>Innings: 1</td>
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<td>South Eastons: 2</td>
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<td>Normals: 4</td>
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H. F. H.
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