The Normal Offering, Vol. 14, No. 1, Sept. 1893

Bridgewater State Normal School

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THE NORMAL OFFERING.

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State Normal School,
BRIDGEWATER.

This Institution is one of the six State Normal Schools under the direction of the Massachusetts Board of Education, and is open to gentlemen not less than seventeen years of age, and ladies not less than sixteen, who desire to prepare for teaching in Common or High Schools.

It has two courses of study, one for two years, and one for four years.

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BERNARD SAXTON.

The Normal Offering.

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

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Terms: 75 cents per year, payable in advance; Single Copies 10 cents.
(Entered at the Post Office as second class mail matter.)


THE first number of the new volume finds us back again at school with the work of the term well begun. The places left vacant last June have been filled by new comers whom we welcome heartily, while we have kindly remembrances and good wishes for those who have left us to put into practise what they have learned here.

Every year broader opportunities are offered us for training in the profession which we have chosen. The Model School is being used more and more for observation and practise, and now a kindergarten is to be added which will ultimately be used in a similar way. Thus we are able not only to study the principles of teaching, but also to observe the workings of these principles when put into practise. With such opportunities at hand, the schools over which we all hope to preside in the future ought to find us well fitted to perform our work in a satisfactory manner.

**

THE object of our Lyceum, we well know is to give practise in thinking quickly and clearly and in good choice of expression. Evidently this practise is a great aid to those who are to become teachers and who will find these qualities necessary in their work. In connection with the Lyceum is published the Offering and its object is supplementary to that of the Lyceum; to give practise in the expression of one's thoughts in writing. To teachers the art of writing readily is almost as necessary as that of speaking with ease; for whenever an essay is to be prepared for any occasion the teacher is one of the first who is asked to undertake this work.

Horace advises those who write for publication to lay aside the article written, for nine years before publishing it. This may have been excellent.
advice for the period in which it was given; but in modern times when advances are made so rapidly in every subject an article preserved for nine years would be rather out of date. We beg all of our readers, then, to become contributors at once, and instead of holding back their articles for their own criticism nine years hence to present them to the public and receive their unprejudiced opinion of them.

The box for contributions to the Offering is in its usual place in the hall.

**

We wish to call the attention of our readers to the advertisements found in our columns. The advertisers are well known business men whom we can recommend as certain to give satisfaction to their patrons.

THE IMPORTANCE OF GENERAL CULTURE IN THE TEACHER.

The subject which I have chosen for this writing, appears in so many different phases, and with so much light and shadow intermingled, in such a confusing mass, that it is difficult to pick out a suitable place to enter upon its treatment.

However, there appears to be one prominent thought which can not be contradicted or doubted in the slightest degree. This is, that, as the teacher is, or should be, the living embodiment of all those virtues which he is toiling to instil into the minds of his pupils, he, himself should possess these virtues. By virtues we mean not only the moral requirements expected of a teacher, but also the attainments which are necessary that he may successfully follow his vocation.

Culture in a general way, implies a great deal. A person that is polite and courteous in company, that makes himself generally agreeable,—need not, necessarily, possess this quality to a marked degree. Of course, in its narrow sense culture is necessary that a person may conduct himself properly in society, but that is not the broad general culture which our subject implies. A person who can truly be said to be generally cultured, is, as someone says, like a telegraph operator. He, through the magazines, papers, etc., has a band of communication with the outside world by which he knows what is going on about him, and not content with knowing, seeks to find out the why and wherefor. In general, he is the person who is at home on any topic of conversation that may arise, whether it be regarding the policy of the present administration, or the scourging of the Hellespont by Xerxes. He is the person who thinks twice before he speaks once, and when he does speak his thoughts are worth something. His society is sought because of his affability and the general air of refinement and reserve power which he throws around him.

The qualities which I have named appear to me to be absolutely requisite that a person may teach successfully. He must have a general knowledge of all that is or has been going on in the world about him so that he may be able to properly instruct the children under his care. He must be able to answer any question his pupils may ask him concerning almost any subject or take a low rank in their estimation. He, too, must be able to take his proper place in society and hold it with ease, and, if I may use the word, grace. I have in mind as an illustration of this, the case of a young man, who, although he was successful in his teaching as far as his school work went, was actually made to feel so uncomfortable because of his utter inability to enter society in the slightest degree, as to cause him to choose another occupation for his life work.

This subject may be developed to a much greater extent than perhaps we have ever before dreamed of. But space and time forbid any further expanding of this interesting topic. So we leave you with these few thoughts hoping they may not be sown in stony ground. C. A. G.

SECTION A REUNION.

It was a happy group of teachers who assembled at the Parker House on Aug. 31 to renew old memories. Each member was distinguished as belonging to this particular party by a unique golden A displaying 92 prominently and the mystic letters B. S. N. S. Yes, it was indeed the noted "Section A" come together after one year's labor to exchange greetings and receive inspiration for future work.
THE NORMAL OFFERING.

Some had not seen each other since their exodus from Alma Mater, and many were the exclamations of astonishment at the changes which one short year had made in the class. All showed perceptible gain in health and weight while one young man confessed to having increased his avoirdupois thirty-five pounds during the year! He felt very sad at not being readily recognized by his classmates.

The dinner, served at 3 p.m., proved a most excellent one, and put the class in fine humor for the exercises which followed. President Bates made an ideal toast master, being in a particularly happy frame of mind. In his opening address, he reviewed interestingly the class life at Bridgewater; spoke feelingly of the sympathy and good fellowship which always preeminently characterized Section A; and brought out many hearty laughs by his witty allusions and ludicrous reminiscences.

The title of the class was cleverly made to do service for five toasts which were responded to as follows: Section A, Mr. Atkins; Association, Miss Paterson; Bridgewater, Mr. Barry; Normal, Mr. Eldredge; 1892, Miss Newhall. Other toasts were: Vacation, Miss Meagher; Our First Year's Experience, Miss Hunter; The Ladies, Mr. Packard; Progress, Mr. McGrath. All the speakers seemed thoroughly imbued with the spirit of the occasion, and their speeches were, accordingly, marked by brilliancy of wit and vividness of imagination; while fraternal love and an intense class spirit lurked in every sentence.

Following the toasts, Miss Sayles occasioned unbounded meriment by her reading of an original class ode—satirical in character—containing many keen allusions to the school life of the class and introducing ludicrously the Hydraulic Ram which Section A loved so well.

After a short business meeting, an adjournment was made to the piano where a most enjoyable hour was passed. Mr. Bates played in his usual finished style; Miss Sayles and Mr. Eldridge contributed well sung solos; and all joined in choruses calculated to alleviate sorrow at parting.

The end came, though, all too quickly and the old comrades parted with hearty expression of never ending friendship. While to only one member was it vouchsafed to bear away a feathered ovisparous reminder of the occasion, all carried away in their hearts the memory of a day pleasantly spent and a determination to be always present at these meetings, as they recur in the revolving cycle of time.

T. J. B.

ENTERING CLASS, SEPT. 1893.

Arthur L. Cobb, John A. Cole, 
Francis P. Daniels, 
Elbridge H. Gifford, 
Chester L. Hayward, 
A. Wallace Hunt, 
Charles H. Morrill, 
Clarence V. Nickerson, 
Walter L. Putnam, 
Fred M. Shaw, 
Alfred R. Winter, 
Dora Alden, 
Nancy S. Allen, 
Martha J. Ambrose, 
Almira H. Baker, 
Miriam G. Bartlett, 
Julia A. Bennett, 
Lilliam M. Blake, 
Adela M. Boutwell, 
Angie S. Bowles, 
Maud J. Bray, 
Zoraeda F. Briggs, 
Mary H. Brooks, 
Lucy P. Burgess, 
Annie E. Burns, 
Hattie R. Byram, 
Ada C. Carter, 
Margaret N. Cleveland, 
Clara L. Coffin, 
Mabel A. Connor, 
Grace E. Crawford, 
Annie E. Crowell, 
May E. Dunham, 
Mary A. Earl, 
Annie M. Frost, 
Margaret E. Fuller, 
Mary A. Gallaghan, 
Katherine G. Gilmore, 
Alma G. Hallamore, 
Mabel E. Harris, 
Clara F. Hathaway, 
Agnes L. Hayward, 
Myra E. Hunt, 
Frances E. Jackson, 
Malvina M. Landers, 
Delia S. Lane, 
Clara E. Lincoln, 
Florence L. Lucas, 
Hattie C. McNeil, 
Campello. 
Gloucester. 
So. Natick. 
Danvers. 
Easton. 
Scituate. 
So. Andover Depot. 
Cotuit. 
Braintree. 
Weston, N. S. 
Mansfield. 
Fairhaven. 
Dartmouth. 
Deerfield, N. H. 
Taunton. 
Marshfield Hills. 
Burlington. 
Barton Landing, Vt. 
Tewksbury. 
Lisbon, N. H. 
Taunton. 
Kingston, Jamaica. 
Rockland. 
Nantucket. 
Maynard. 
Taunton. 
So. Harwich. 
Brockton. 
Medford. 
Rockland, Me. 
Cambridgeport. 
Taunton. 
Milford. 
Brockton. 
Fall River. 
Fairhaven. 
Bridgewater. 
Randolph. 
Gloucester. 
Cotuit. 
Rockport. 
Bridgewater. 
No. Plymouth. 
Everett.
THE NORMAL OFFERING.

GRADUATION.

GRADUATION day although not quite corresponding to Lowell’s idea of a day in June was cool and comfortable. An unusually large audience assembled in the school hall to witness the exercises of the largest class ever leaving the school. The room was prettily decorated with roses, ferns, smilax and palms. At ten o’clock Mr. Boyden conducted the devotional exercises; next came a selection by the orchestra, and then the orator of the day Rev. I. J. Lansing of the Park Street Church, Boston, was introduced. The subject of the address was “The Culture of the Spiritual Life.” Dr. Lansing emphasized the fact that the climax of life is neither physical nor mental, but spiritual. In former times matter held the more important place, in this age we are apt to consider the mind and mental training as of the chief importance; but beyond this lies the spiritual life and we are now beginning to see that this is necessary. The greatest men are those of great spiritual faculty. A man with a great heart, great love and great faith can take in more and do more than any man the world ever saw.

The speaker brought forward the fact that many are troubled with unbelief because they cannot see and prove everything pertaining to the spiritual life. Then by most interesting illustrations he showed that in electricity there are many things contradictory to reason, yet true. What of it, then, if in the spiritual life there are things which transcend reason? It belongs to us to seek knowledge in the spiritual field of life and not to confine ourselves to mere thinking.

Dr. Lansing’s address was extremely interesting and much appreciated not only by the scholars to whom it was especially given but by the many friends present.

After a song by the school, Mr. Charles D. Hart of the two-years course in behalf of his class presented to the school a fund for the erection of a flag staff on the school premises. This is a most appropriate gift as that of the class of June 1891, was a handsome American flag.

Mr. Louis A. Crocker then offered as the gift of the four-years section a “specimen page from the Book of Nature,” to be seen in the porch, below. This proved to be a fine specimen of stratification, brought from Nantasket. Mr. Boyden received both gifts for the school and then made his usual report and gave his farewell address to the graduates. He reminded them that the law of life is sacrifice and service.

Mr. Boyden called the attention of the audience to the collections in the various recitation rooms, saying that they were the result of thirty years’ effort.

After another song by the school Mr. Aldrich presented the seventy-nine members of the graduating class with their diplomas. The exercises closed with the singing of the Doxology.

Among those present were noted Mrs. Kate Gannett Wells, Mrs. Alice Freeman Palmer, Mr. John W. Dickinson and Mr. Henry T. Bailey of the Board of Education, and Professor Krusi of Oswego, N. Y.

RECEPTION BY THE CLASS OF JUNE ’93.

EVENING saw Assembly Hall again filled with friends of the graduates who had come together for a social time. During the earlier part of the evening the guests were received by members of the graduating class. Later, came a Grand March in which many participated. Baldwin’s Orchestra furnished the music for the evening. Social intercourse and another “walk,
around" made the time pass all too quickly and the hands of the old clock reached the hour of ten before any one realized where the evening had flown. One after another the guests departed and soon graduation day with all its joys and sorrows was but a memory.

BASEBALL.

BRIDGEWATER, JUNE 24, 1893. The game with the Alumni, postponed from last Saturday, took place today on the campus. It was clearly shown that the visiting Alumni players had not forgotten how to play ball. Paul's work on third base was excellent. Cholerton, despite his errors, played a fine game, and McGrath's pitching was all that could be desired. The Normal boys were so confident of victory that they did not exert themselves to any degree, yet they had their hands full for the first four innings. Gardner and Parker excelled for the home team. The score:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>B. S. N. S.</th>
<th>A.B.</th>
<th>R.</th>
<th>T.B.</th>
<th>P.O.</th>
<th>A.</th>
<th>E.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Reynolds, 3b</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>Parker, tb.</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>11</td>
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<td>Tucker, 2b</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<td>Crocker, lf.</td>
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<td>3</td>
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FOOTBALL.

BRIDGEWATER, Mass., Sept. 9, 1893. The outlook for football is very promising. There are men enough left of last year's team to make a strong nucleus for this year. We are very fortunate, too, in having several strong players in the class that has just entered. There is little doubt but that the rush line will be as strong, if not stronger, than ever before. Concerning the strength of the team back of the line we can at present say nothing.

Practise will begin at once. The first game will be played the first Saturday in October, and in order to get in good condition by that time we shall have to work hard. All the men in school ought to come out and help in practise even if they do not expect to get on the team. Let the interest manifested last year be awakened and success will surely be ours.

DEPARTMENTS.

RHETORIC.

THE sub-senior rhetoric class met, one day last term, as a "Schoolmaster's Club," to discuss the subject of "English in Schools." Members had been asked by the presiding officer to open the discussion on various points, and much interest in the question was manifest.

Among other things, it was said that, in the lower schools, a varied course of outside reading under the direction of a teacher, would do much to remove the causes of the poor English work of students of higher grades; the causes being chiefly narrowness of vocabulary and thought. Yet this reading must be adapted to the needs of the individual pupils, so that one of the hardest duties of a teacher of English is to teach what to read. An excellent idea in this connection is the school library, which may begin in a few well-chosen books on the teacher's desk.

To overcome the present dislike of composition writing, several devices were suggested. One is that the subject be always within the pupil's comprehension, and its choice usually left to him. It was said that the aim of English work should be to supply the pupils with thoughts that will make them eager to write, and to give them such command of language as will make writing easy.
Also, in regard to correcting mistakes, it is important that the pupil not be discouraged by too much notice of his errors; but the standard of correction should increase gradually. It has been said that the "teacher of English is most successful full who is most successful in making opportunities to use English."

**GEOGRAPHY AND PHYSIOLOGY.**

GEOGRAPHY and Physiology have been exchanged in place. During the present term there will be three classes in Physiology and none in Geography.

By this change Geography will be studied after most of the related sciences, a greater degree of maturity and extent of knowledge will be brought to the subject, and a fuller development of it made possible. The earlier study of Physiology will produce clear ideas of the vital processes and will enable pupils to come to a more accurate and more appreciative knowledge of the gradual development of these processes as shown in the study of Zoology.

**PHYSICAL CULTURE.**

THE work in Physical Culture has been extended so that no\' members of all classes except the Junior receive regular instruction in the gymnasium.

Miss B. L. Barnes, a graduate of the Boston Normal School, a successful teacher, and a graduate of the Boston Normal School of Gymnastics has been added to the faculty and makes this extension of the gymnastic work possible. Miss Barnes will also have charge of the gymnastic work in the Model School.

So far as time will allow classes from the Model School will receive additional instruction in the gymnasium, members from the older classes in the Normal School being selected to assist in the instruction of the classes.

**NATURE WORK.**

TYPICAL sets of drawings and mounts have been selected from those exhibited in June and will be so mounted as to easily show the kind, scope, and excellence of the work in Nature Study, Geography, and Drawing. Visitors will thus be enabled to learn in a short time the work in these departments of the Normal and Model schools.

**KINDERGARTEN.**

THE State Board of Education and the School Committee of Bridgewater have agreed to the establishment of a Kindergarten on the same basis as that for the Model school. Owing to the very crowded condition of our building the reference library room will be temporarily used for this purpose. The Kindergarten will be opened as soon as a teacher is procured.

---

**PERSONALS.**

—June '93. Among those that were graduated after a four years' course, Augustus O. Burke is teaching in Sandwich; Winthrop N. Crocker is principal of the Washington School, East Weymouth; Louis A. Crocker has the East Bridgewater High; George A. Keith has accepted the position held by Robert W. Fuller during the past year, the principalship of the grammar school at Natick, R. I.; E. F. Southworth is in the Dedham Grammar; and G. H. Wilson has gone to Wayne, Penn., to take charge of a grammar school: also, Miss Elsie G. Howard is principal of the Mansfield Grammar School; Lucy D. Plimpton is teaching Natural Sciences in the Abington High; and Miss Souther is teaching music and drawing in a South Carolina Normal School.

—For convenience the two years' graduate are tabulated as follows:

- J. F. Fitzpatrick, Grammar, Natick.
- E. E. Soule, Grammar, Centreville, R. I.
- Elsie C. Annett, 1st and 2d, No. Abington.
- Mary H. Atkins, 8th grade, Amherst Centre.
- Pauline J. Atkins, South Sudbury.
- Grace G. Alden, Brockton.
- A. G. Bourbeau, Primary, E. Bridgewater.
- Ruby Clark, Grammar, Augusta, Me.
- F. I. Clark, Proctor Academy, Andover, N. H.
- Esther Cook, Primary, Raynham.
- B. H. Desjardins, Primary, No. Attleboro.
- Sadie Frost, Eastville.
- C. Belle Gannett, 4th and 5th, Pepperell.
- Amy L. Gildred, Tiverton, R. I.
- L. F. Graves, South School, Bridgewater.
- E. M. Kane, 3d grade, Brockton.
- K. E. Lahey, No. Attleboro.
- E. M. Luther, Primary, No. Attleboro.
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