Oennsylvania DESK and FURNITURE CO.

Pennsylvania Building, 15th and Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia.

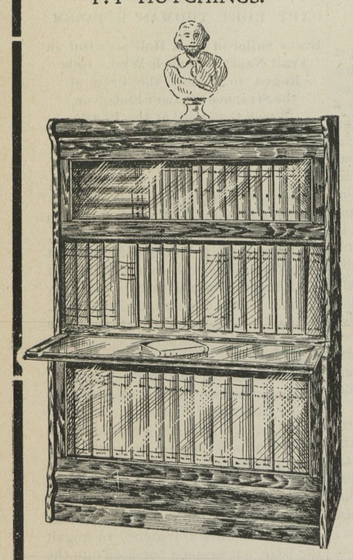
H. W. RICKEY, formerly of Chestertown, Md.
P. F HUTCHINGS.

SECTIONAL

BOOK CASES

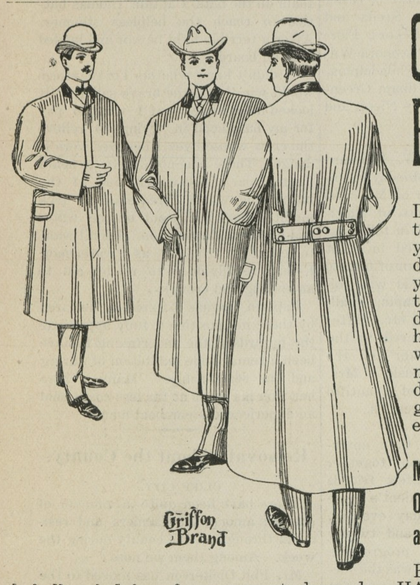
FOR LIBRARIES and OFFICES.

Cree-Dickson.



For Convenience, Construction and Finish they have no equal. The advantage of the Cree-Dickson over all others is that each section is a complete and independent book case, but adapted to be grouped or assembled, thereby forming a sectional case of any required capacity.

Write to-day for our Illustrated Catalogue.



COME EARLY

Don't put off for to-morrow what you might have done day before yesterday. Avoid the influx of Holiday trade. We have been busy and will be more so nearer the holidays. There's a good assortment eft yet in

Men's and Boys' Overcoats and Suits.

But they will soon dwindle, judging from present demands. HATS AND CAPS, GLOVES, NECKWBAR, UNDERWEAR, and all the small wearables complete now. But come early.

respectfully,

Moody & Lusby

Directfully Opposite Court House Chestertown, Md.

GEORGE W. SMITH. HARRY R. GRAHAM.

Always in Season.

READY-MADE HARNESS,

and sell at the smallest margins. Also make a specialty of

$10 HARNESS.

Also all kinds of strap work, collars, bridles, traces, and all furnishings used on the farm.

A splendid line of Robes, Horse Blankets and

All Kinds of Horse Goods.

LOADED SHELLS for Gunners and Sportsmen.

Leather Belting and Lace Leather.

OILS OF ALL KINDS.

SLEDS that steer—the greatest Sleds of the time. Strong and durable.

Pumps of the most approved pattern. A large quantity of

Fodder Yarn, Corn Baskets,

and everything necessary to husband the crop, or that is useful on the farm.

SMITH& GRAHAM,

ELIASON BUILDING, CHESTERTOWN, Md.

The Transcript.

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY.

—BY—

The Transcript Publishing Co

CHESTERTOWN, MD.

Subscription $1.00 Per Year.

R. H. COLLINS, T.D.BOWERS,
EDITORS,

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 1905.

WORD SYSTEM OR ALPHABET?

Sequence of Letters Not Taught in the Public School of Philadelphia.

QUICK READING METHOD.

How many persons in this city are aware that the alphabet is not taught in the public schools of Philadelphia, nor has been for many years?

Owing to this omission a few parents have asserted that some pupils actually did not know the proper location of the letters in the alphabet and consequently were greatly hampered in their studies.

Prof William H. McLaughlin principal of the Vaughan Public School, on Marlborough st., above Thompson, in Kensington, is distinctly in favor of restoring the old system of first teaching the alphabet. He dclares that many boys of twelve to fourteen have an imperfect knowledge of proper sequence of the letters. The professor talks earnestly of the subject and evidently greatly interested in it.

"I have noticed that some of my schoars, on looking up references in history or geography, seem to be at a total loss to know how to go about it, and as general thing, their parents have to do it for them.

"Take the case of Athens, on which subject I might tell one of my classes of boys to write a composition. They might be able to learn something about the city, but if they had to turn to a book of reference to find out about some of the prominent men such as Pericles, they would be at a loss, simply because they don't know the proper arrangement of the letters. I find this particularly common among boys of the sixth, seventh and eighth grades, that is twelve, thirteen and fourteen years of age.

"Lately we have been giving them a series of papers to write entitled, 'Six of tho Seats of Learning.' These were Athens, Rome, Florence, Venice, London and Constantinople. Of course, we are not expected to give any direct information on the subjects and we find that they have to get their parents, assistance to help them out. This is the rule rather than exception. The exception is the boy able to do it. They don't know how to use the dictionary because they don't know the alphabet. I would suggest that it be studied in the lower grades.

"It wouldn't take very much time then, and would be much better than having to take it later when the boy has so much else to do.

"The lack of knowledge of the multiplication table is also noticeable. The children are not expected to study it in the lowest grades, the teacher rendering so much assistance that they are helpless when they get into the grammar school.

"I thing that the present method or word system for very young children has been in vogue for fifteen years. Before the adoption of this the alphabet was taught.

"According to this word system the child is made acquainted with words such as cat or dog. He is not taught to spell these words at first, but is instructed to recognize them as a whole by means of a picture of their being written on a blackboard.

"After he has been in the school about three months and knows a number of these words by sight, he then is taught to spell and recognize each letter, but at no time the letters in their proper succession in the alphabet.

"It is consequently not surprising that he never knows the relative position of the letters.

"I thing unquestionably that thi hampers the boys because after leaving school in actual business life they must have that knowledge.

"About a third of the boys that come to school are bright and anxious to learn, a second third are about medium in their studies while the remaining third is about equally made up of lazy and stupid boys."

The large Alexander Adair School at Thompson and Palmer sts., is a three story brick builuing holding between nine hundred and a thousand girls at the present time.

Miss Gilbert is the principal and in answer to the question about whether it would not be better to have the alphabet taught in the school than the so called word system, replied that it was taught in her school.

"We always have the pupil taught the alphabet during the latter half of the first grade and also the second.

"The pupils learn to read quickly by means of the word system and I thoroughly approve of it. I am quite certain that all my pupils know the alphabet; at any rate we never had and complaints that they did not.

In the Edward W. Gorgas School the word system also found a champion in the principal who declared it was very successful.

"As far as I know all scholars could repeat the alphabet correctly," said she. "They either learn at home or seem to pick it up at school from learning the words."

"The Eward W. Gorgas School is a primary school at the corner of Belgrade st. and Susquehanna ave.

The principal of the Lucretia Mott School on Huntington st., above Memphis said that the girls were all taught the alphabet during the latter part of first grade and the beginning of the second. "I am decidedly in favor of our present system, the girls learn to read much quicker than by the old method.

The huge four-storied brownstone structure of St. Ann's, said to be the largest parochial school in the city, at the corner of Cedar and Tucker sts., contains 2,000.

The principal said: I have found a decided lack of fundamental principles of the three "R.'s" among a number of boys with whom I come have into contact. I have heard boys read in a parrott-like way without knowing the names of the letters. Yes, I think the alphabet should be taught originally rather than this newer method. I find arithmetic to be a weak point with the average boy; they rarely get over five, which is a poor mark."

The Thirty-first Ward Grammar School, at Sepviva and York sts., is a particularly handsome building of gray stone. This is for girls only. The principal was quite certain that all her pupils knew their alphabet correctly.

"Our girls when they go into the fifth or grammar grade, are taught to use their dictionaries," she said. "They do not pick this up at once, but after a course of instruction are able to use them intelligently. I consider it of the utmost importance that they should use them as it teaches them to spell correctly and have an extensive vocabulary."

The John S. Hart School is on E. York st., between Memphis and Cedar. It is thirty-six years old and differs from most of the schools in appearance, being constructed of serpentine or greenstone.

Dr. Wm. H. Samuel, quite a veteran teacher is the the principal. Dr. Samuel was one of the first, if not the first to discover the word system. He said that he thought the vast majority of his thousand pupils knew the alphabet, but, he continued: "As a faithful man, I would not like to say that they all could tell you exactly where each letter came in its proper place.

Several teachers in this school said that they thought the boys knew their alphabet, but sometimes they would mix up words when reading such as "no" and "on," "saw" for "was," "when" for "then," "every" for "very," and so fourth.

Dr. Samuel asked the boys in several rooms to say their alphabets. About twenty were asked, and the great majority rattled them off in great shape. A few made slight mistakes, and one only could not do it. These boys were about eight to twelve. At the Locust Street Grammar School, at 12th and Locust streets, the principal said the word system was far superior to the old method. The boys learn much quicker and quite as thoroughly. He laughed at the idea of their not knowing their alphabet.

The school at 15th and Locust streets, of which Miss McCormick is principal, is a mixed school of young children. Miss McCormick said that all the pupils learned their alphabet before they left school at the end of the first term. "We do not teach it to them at first, because we think they learn to read much more quickly by the other method, and we soon find that they knew the names of all the letters."

Miss McCormick asked the children what letter comes after L, T or C, as the case might be, and was correctly answered almost invariably. Then a number of the children were asked to recite the alphabet from beginning to end and all did this correctly. These children were, in some cases, only six years old.

Ungrateful.

"Say, that little Frenchman who came into the saloon the other night where we were all drinking and asked for help was the most ungrateful little wretch in the world. Did you hear what he called us when he was leaving?"

"No. What?"

"Why, he kept repeating till he got clear out of the door, 'T'anks, t'anks, t'anks!'"—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

CASTORIA
For Infants and Children.
The Kind You Have Always Bought
Bears the Signature of Chas. H. Fletcher.

McCLURE'S FOR JANUARY.

Read McClure's for January!

There's one New Year's resolution that will prove a pleasure as well as a profit. For, besides the manifold entertainment, in its nine stories, it contains articles timely and pleasing, two of which are unique and helpful contributions to two of the most vital problems that American citizens will have to face in 1905. "Lynching in the South," by Ray Standard Baker, will do more than many an act of Congress to break down the barriers of sectional misunderstanding on the negro problem. Neither acedemic nor partism, it is the work of a trained journalist seeking, not to argue but to show the causes of recent outbreaks. Although himself a Northerner, he finds that the South has no lessons to learn from the North concerning lynching. In "Tuberculosis, the Real Race Suicide," Samuel Hopkins Adams states, no less authoritively than startlingly, the horrors of "The Great White Plague." He shows that modern science could alleviate and prevent the dread disease, were it not for the ingorance, prejudice and greed of many in our midst—including even a large class of the medical profession.

Heart-beats of our great nation, grave and gay, are galvanized into life by the cunning hands of several story-writers in this number. The last chapters of Stewart Edward White's serial, "The Rawhide," contain not only the sweeping out-door flavor of Arizona (shown, too, in Maxfield Parrish's wonderful color picture), and the swift action of the catastrophe, but also a marvelous analysis of human suffering. Another Arizona story, in amusing contrast to this, is Henry Wallace Phillips' yarn, "A Touch of Nature," in which our old cowboy friend, Red Saunders, adventures strangely with a kilted Scotcman (rattling illustrations for this by A. B, Frost). To a little Kansas town we are carried by the stinging, powerful pen of Willa Cather, to witness "The Sculptor's Funeral"—a bitter contrast of raw ungliness with refined beauty. Charles Fleming Embree tells what a mockery was "The Liberty of Florentine," a poor little Cuban who was run out of his little Indiana School because they called him "nigger," and who wasn't allowed to work at his trade because they called him "scab." N. M. W. Woodrow sketches sharply the proud little woman who was "Old Man Johnson's Successor" in a Western mining town. More humor, typically American, follows in "Billy's Orgy," Grace S. Richmond's tale of the pleasant martyrdom of a bachelor uncle, and in "The Schism at St. Hilda's," in which Mark Lee Luther describes an amazing clerical dispute in a fashion able parish.

An extraordinary revelation of a Japanese sacrifice, "For Love of Country," is made by John Dwight—a true story. Seumas MacManus tells a rollicking Irish fairy-tale of the three princes who captured "The Steed of Bells." More articles are by Frederic Irland who writes of "The reporter Who Became President" (James Madison), and C. E. Williams who gives, charmingly and truthfully, "A Gilmpse of Beavers at Work." Graceful poems by A. E. Housman and Florence Wilkinson add a finishing touch to this number—one full of interest to anyone that takes an interest in his nation and his fellowmen.

Etiquette.

A gentleman always rises from his seat when a iady enters or leaves the room.

On a man's visiting card only titles that indicate a rank or profession for life should be used.

At a ball one may not refuse a certain dance to one gentleman and then dance it with another.

A letter to a married woman is directed with her husband's name or initals and her own—as, Mrs. Thomas R. Gibbs or Mrs. T. R. Gibbs.

To be polite to one we dislike is not necessarily being insincere. Politeness is not so much a manifestation toward others as an indication of what we are ourselves. We owe it to ourselves to be well bred.

On formal occasions no napkin rings appear on the table and the napkin is used but once. At the home dinner the napkin, if not too soiled, should be placed in the ring to be used again at breakfast or luncheon.

They Cut Both Ways.

Some intelligence offices encourage even the greenest girls to abandon general housework and try for the place of cook, parlor maid, etc., for it increases the fee, many offices based this upon the amount of wages paid. This is one explanation of the decreasing number of general housework girls.

They are also responsible for some of the restlessness of employees. Girls are placed in positions and removed when they are needed for others. Some use employers as training schools. Green foreigners are sent, and when they have learned enough English and housework they are sent to others higher wages, the office not neglecting to colect the extra fees.

Then they inform the long suffering employer that they understand her girl has left and that they can supply her need.—Atlantic Monthly.

SPARKS & JEFFERSON.

STORE NEWS

FRESH ARRIVALS ALMOST DAILY MAKE IT WORTH WHILE COMING AND LOOKING, EVEN IF NOT DISPOSED TO BUY EVERY TIME.

We always say "WELCOME." You are just as free to ask questions, examine qualities and compare prices at one time as another.

Our all and Winter Stock Now Complete!

DRESS GOODS.

Stacks and heaps of NEW FALL GOODS are waiting you here—variety sufficient to please every taste. Prices to meet the ideas of the most economical.

CLOAKS FOR EVERYBODY.

You'll think so when you see the stock. This is CLOAK week. There's a snap to the air; there's a snap to the business. This department is right on the jump just now and such values as we have will keep it jumping.

FURS.

There are very few jokes older than the one concerning the fur trade and its being a regular skin business, and yet. is it not a fact in more ways than one? Furs are bought and sold "on honor" by the great public, none but an expert being able to tell much about them. If you buy furs at a reliable store you will get your money's worth. OUR FURS are sold with a guarantee. Your money back if they are not as we recommend.

"LADIES' TAILOR-MADE SUITS AND SEPARATE SKIRTS."

We carry a full and up-to-date stock.

Millinery! Millinery!

Our business has steadily increased in this line, until now we are the acknowledged leaders. Our trimming is done by a city expert who is under an agreement to spend a certain time in New York before each season begins, and this is a sufficient guarantee that our styles are right. Our prices are cut as low as possible, and we invite a comparison of same at all times. Your patronage is solicited. Come and see us.

Sparks & Jefferson.

©Maryland State Archives, msa_sc6000_42_1-0429.jpg