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the reason why in so many of the schools of the United Kingdom the old examination system has been virtually abolished; and the letters which Inspector Whitham read to the teachers afford sufficient evidence that the reform promises to produce highly successful results. What is now needed is a generous recognition of the truth that, as there are many different minds and temperaments, so there must be many varied excellent methods of teaching. The means by which one schoolmaster finds it possible to throw himself enthusiastically into his work may not be exactly the same as those in which another is best able to inspire his pupils with a love of knowledge, truth, and goodness. Hence in the supervision of a national educational system the best policy is to make every effort to secure good teachers, and then to permit their individual temperaments to mould their modes of presenting instruction to the children. Under such improved conditions the Inspector might often "agree to differ" from the style of teaching adopted by some schoolmaster, and might nevertheless come to the conclusion that, as the teacher found it suited him and he was an enthusiast in it, it was best for him and for his pupils. This means, however, that the department must offer better inducements to capable men and women not only to enter the service, but also to remain in it. In the past there has been too much of the mistake made by the shortsighted employer who said—"I know I give the very lowest wages; but then I examine every inch of the work turned out by my employes." If he had offered good terms to his employes he would not have needed to be so particular about his scrutiny. If every teacher were an enthusiast bent upon imbuing all his pupils with a passionate love of truth and righteousness, and a determination to seek that knowledge which profiteth, how quickly the standard of our schools would be raised! Mr. Goschen put the position tersely when he said, in one of his speeches—"You may drive people into working harder, but the results will disappoint you unless you make them fond of work. Greater knowledge is good, but there is a higher ideal—greater love of knowledge." This higher ideal the Teachers' Union has set before itself and the people whose children it educates. Accordingly each successive annual meeting proves more conclusively that the Institution has many potentialities for good.

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SPARE THE ROD—SPOIL THE CHILD.

To the Editor.
 Sir—Professor Douglas, in his address to the teachers, is reported to have said—"In education, as in other things, force was no remedy," which is, I submit, a pernicious doctrine, and to which I prefer the doctrine of Professor King Solomon—"He that spareth his rod hateth his son, but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes." The want of the rod has led to the multitude of little girls about the streets, for which Police Commissioner Madley desires the application of force; and in your paper of the next day Mr. C. J. Sanders supports the Commissioner. I think these be sounder professors than Mr. Douglas is! In the same paper an old resident in the hills complains of the increase there of larrikinism for want of police force, and there is also reported an account of a young man sent to gaol who persisted in coming to his father's house and assaulting his mother and sisters, barricading himself in a room, and generally making himself unpleasant. Is it not rather ridiculous to pretend that force is no remedy, when in truth society cannot be held together without it?
 I am, Sir, &c., X.

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LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALASIA.

The programme of the meeting of the Library Association of Australasia, to be held in Adelaide next week, is of a highly interesting character, and gives promise of an intellectual treat. On Tuesday evening, October 9, there will be a conversazione and loan exhibition of old and rare books, manuscripts, engravings, historical relics, and other objects of interest in the Elder Hall University. His Excellency the Governor has promised to be present. The musical programme will be under the direction of Professor Ives. Evening dress will be worn. The programme for the succeeding days is as follows:—Wednesday, October 10.—Morning Meeting—Reception of members and Associates in the Elder Hall, University of Adelaide. All delegates will be asked to sign the roll. Address by the President, the Right Hon. Sir Samuel Way, Bart. Paper, "An Ideal Library from a Librarian's Point of View," by E. La T. Armstrong, M.A., LL.B., Librarian of the Public Library of Victoria. Paper, "The Relationship between the National Library and Small Country Libraries," by A. C. I. Anderson, M.A., Principal Librarian of the Public Library of New South Wales. Paper, "The Institutes Association of South Australia," by Thomas Burgoyne, M.P. Afternoon Meeting—Paper, "The Management of Country Libraries," by W. J. Macdonnell, Sydney. Paper, "Bookbinding in Public Libraries," by J. S. Balye, B.A., LL.B., Librarian of the Victoria Public Library, Perth. At 4 p.m. His Excellency the Governor and Lady Tennyson have invited members and Associates to a garden party at Government House. Evening Meeting—A lecture by Professor Morris, Litt. D., University of Melbourne, on "Captain Flinders" will be delivered in the Elder Hall; His Excellency the Governor will preside. Thursday, October 11.—Morning Meeting—Inspection of Public Library and Reading-rooms. Paper, "The Theory and Practice of Library Classification," by A. W. Brazier, M.A., Public Library of Victoria. Paper, "How the Public Libraries of Australasia may be made Most Useful to Students: A, internal arrangements; B, pooling of Libraries," by Professor Douglas, M.A., University of Adelaide. Paper, "The Public Lending Library of Victoria," by R. D. Boys, B.A., Public Library of Victoria. Paper, "What Local Literature Should we Preserve in a Public Library," by J. R. G. Adams, Librarian of the Public Library of South Australia. At 12.15 p.m. there will be an inspection of the Parliamentary Library at the invitation of the Chairman of the Parliament Library Committee, Sir Richard Baker, K.C.M.G. Afternoon Meeting—Paper, "Newspaper Reading-rooms, their Design and Management," by A. Neville, Melbourne. Paper, "Notes on Early Stamped Leather Bindings," by Rev. F. G. Masters, M.A. Lady Way has invited the members and Associates to an at home at Montefiore at 3.30 p.m. Evening Meeting—Paper, "The Australian Author and the Libraries," by Professor Morris, Litt. D. Paper, "South Australian Library Statistics," by Thomas Gill, Adelaide. Address, P. McM. Glynn, B.A., M.P. Friday October 12.—Morning Meeting—Inspection of the University Library by invitation. Paper, "A Scholar Librarian," by Alexander Leeper, M.A., LL.D., University of Melbourne. Paper, "Thirty-five years in an Australian Library," by Adam G. Melville, Melbourne. Paper, "The Scientific Periodicals in the Melbourne Libraries," by T. S. Hall, M.A., University of Melbourne. Paper, "The Relation of the Heating Arrangements in Libraries, Museums, &c., to the Conservation of Books, Specimens, &c.," by J. G. O. Tepper, F.L.S., Librarian of the South Australian Museum Library. Afternoon—2.30 p.m. His Worship the Mayor of Adelaide has invited the members and Associates to meet him at the Town Hall. 3.30 p.m., members and Associates to meet—1. To receive Hon. Secretary's report. 2. To decide upon the place and time of next meeting. 3. To elect officers. Saturday, October 13.—The President and Executive Committee have invited intercolonial and country visitors to a drive. Drags will leave the Public Library for the Hills at 10 a.m. Other members and Associates can obtain tickets on payment of 5s. each. Such tickets entitle the purchaser to two seats on a drag. There will be discussions on the various papers, speakers being limited to five minutes.

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LIBRARY ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE.

On Tuesday evening next the annual conference of the Library Association of Australasia will be opened at the Elder Conservatorium Hall. The week's programme promises to be most interesting and successful, and with the exception of Queensland and Tasmania all the colonies will be represented by delegates. Preparations for the sittings have been going on for some time past, and as there is to be an exhibition in connection with the conference, the work has been all the more arduous. Mr. J. R. G. Adams, the librarian of the Public Library, who is the hon. secretary of the association, has been an exceedingly busy man of late, and he has been ably supported by Messrs. W. H. Hould, M. J. O'Connor, A. S. Styles, and two cadets. All this week they have been working night

"THE PROGRESS OF MEDICINE."

At the University on Friday evening Dr. Lendon, M.D., delivered the third of a course of extension lectures on "The Progress of Medicine during the Nineteenth Century." The subject of his discourse was "Antiseptics," and his remarks were instructive and interesting. The lecturer dealt with the factors which had contributed to the advancement of surgery, viz., the improved knowledge of surgical pathology and the administration of anaesthetics and antiseptics. Dr. Lendon touched upon the unsatisfactory results of operations which were performed in the pre-antiseptic days, such as wound inflammation and suppuration, erysipelas, blood-poisoning, hospital gangrene, and lockjaw, and referred to Simpson's views upon the subject. After giving some interesting information on the modes of dressing wounds, surgical and accidental, the remainder of the lecture was devoted to the life of Joseph Lister, the prevalent views as to the cause of wound inflammation, Lister's theory of the cause of putrefaction in wounds, and the evolution of "Listerism." The doctor's concluding remarks were devoted to aseptic, substantial operations, bloodless operations, aspiration, and the transfusion of blood and injection of saline fluids.

and day, and there is still sufficient to do to keep them well employed until the conference opens. A feature of the gathering will be the splendid collection of old and rare books, manuscripts, historical relics, engravings, and other interesting exhibits. We have already published a description of some of the contributions, and in another column an additional article dealing with the exhibits will be found. The opening on Tuesday evening will take the form of a conversazione, at which Miss Ethel Hanzke, an Elder scholar, the Conservatorium Orchestra, and others will contribute vocal and instrumental selections. The president, the Right Hon. Sir Samuel Way, will receive the delegates at 8 o'clock, and the concert will begin half an hour later, whilst the exhibits will be on view during the evening. His Excellency the Governor has promised to be present, and the evening's programme will be under the direction of Professor Ives. The conference will last until Friday next, and the president and executive committee have invited intercolonial and country visitors to a drive in the hills on Saturday. During the conference a number of interesting addresses and papers will be given by various delegates and others. The visiting delegates will begin to arrive from the various colonies to-day, and a number of suburban and country institutes will also be represented. Those gentlemen who are coming from the other colonies are Mr. Thos. Rowe, M.A., of the Wellington Public Library; Mr. J. L. Batty, B.A., LL.B., Librarian of the Victoria Public Library, Perth; Mr. M. J. Elwood, Broken Hill Public Library; Dr. A. Leeper, M.A., LL.B., and Professor Morris, Litt. D., University of Melbourne; Mr. E. H. Bromley, M.A., Librarian of the Melbourne University; Rev. J. Reid, the Hon. Edward Laughton, and Mr. A. W. Brazier, M.A., of the Melbourne Public Library; Mr. A. G. Melville, of Melbourne; Mr. E. L. Armstrong, M.A., LL.B., Librarian of the Victorian Public Library; Mr. W. H. Batten and Dr. C. H. Hardy, of the Mechanics' Institute, Ballarat; Messrs. J. W. Sayer and J. C. Taylor, of the Mechanics' Institute, Geelong; Messrs. R. Bran and J. Taylor, of the Mechanics' Institute, Kilmore, Victoria; and Mr. Heather, of the South Melbourne Mechanics' Institute.

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ELDER CONSERVATORIUM.

A pianoforte recital by Mr. Bryceson Treharne attracted a full house to the Elder Hall on Saturday evening. The programme presented, like its predecessors, was admirable in quality and arrangement. Mr. Treharne appeared to be in his most pugilistic mood, a circumstance that can scarcely have added to the enjoyment of the more critical of his hearers. Excessive force, when used on the finest modern concert grands, may produce a splendid effect, but on the somewhat worn Chickering piano in the Elder Hall it results only in distinctly disagreeable clang and harshness. For this reason the recitalist was more pleasing in the quieter numbers, and special mention may be made of a charming little "Minuetto scherzando," by Stavenhagen, that was treated with refinement and finish. Mr. Treharne was fairly satisfactory in Tausig's familiar arrangement of Bach's "Tocatta and fugue in D minor," and gave an intelligent rendering of Beethoven's "32 variations." His playing of a "Capriccio" by Brahms was one of the best things of the evening, but Schumann's Sonata, op. 22, which he also played at his opening recital, suffered from the excessive force used. A group of Chopin's pieces, embracing the "Ballade in G minor," "Valse in D flat," "Berceuse," and "Polonaise in A flat," concluded the recital. Miss Gull Hack, A.R.C.M., gave great pleasure by her cultured and refined singing of three Biblical songs by Dvorak—"Clouds and darkness," "Turn thee to me," and "Hear my prayer"—in which her declamatory powers were displayed to great advantage. Her interpretation of a bracket of two little songs by Liza Lehmann and Frances Allitsen was equally pleasing, and a recall followed the last one, "The nightingale has a lyre of gold," which was repeated. Mr. Treharne played the accompaniments in a brilliant and artistic manner.

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Fra Angelico is, says the "Daily News" of Tuesday, treated in a book which Messrs. Bell are publishing this week. The author, Professor Langton Douglas, of Adelaide University, has done much to elucidate the chronology of Angelico's works. Ambassadorial visits to Florence, represented by the painter, have supplied Professor Douglas with data for the determination of contested dates. In the author's view, Fra Angelico was an artist first and a saint next. In the traditional view the order is reversed. Among the pictures with which the volume is copiously illustrated are some that are photographed for the first time.