

essay to be loud in dress and address they prove themselves ill-bred creatures devoid of a true vision of manners and morals. Truly pitiable is the mental condition of some people. Fancy, for instance, how intelligent one must be to sneak about under cover of darkness and rob a hen-roost! He tells of it to his "fool-friends," who think his act most brilliant. If he is caught and punished, as he ought to be, he then thinks himself of even greater importance than ever and his "cronies" look upon him as a hero. Such cases are hard for a humane people to deal with. When good brain is lacking the case is nearly hopeless. Few chicken thieves realize the "fitness of things."

It is for the disposition of cases of this character that police and justice courts are maintained throughout the land. So long as people refuse to use their minds in living for good things; so long as they turn a deaf ear to the voice of conscience which God has given them, just so long will courts be necessary to maintain justice to all according to the merits of the individual and his case.

GOOD PENMANSHIP

What a pleasure it is to receive a letter from a dear friend! It is the next thing to a visit—tete-a-tete. But when that letter is so written that it is a greater task to read than it to decipher a lot of hieroglyphics on the pyramids some of the pleasure that should be present is missing. How vexatious it is to run onto a word right in the midst of an important or interesting sentence which cannot be "made out". The word might be this, that, or something else—all making sense—but what in the world is it? Was there ever such a pickle? So you see good penmanship is a very important matter as well as a pleasing feature for for the eye.

Beyond a certain degree of profficiency in writing many of us cannot go, as it is more or less a gift to write an elegant hand, but we can, and should, write legibly. Not long ago we read an article on the decadence of the art of good penmanship, in which various reasons were stated as contributing to the present state of affairs. It was stated that the typewriter was being brought into play and the only penmanship required in connection with the machine is the signature at the end of the epistle. Owing to the pace at which we are all traveling through life, and the pressure of business, friendly letter-writing is almost a thing of the past and consequently penmanship is suffering.