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POLITENESS

"A bunch of golden keys is mine
To make each day with gladness shine;
'Good morning,' that's the golden key,
That unlocks every door for me.
When evening comes, 'Good night,' I say,
And close the door of each glad day;
When at the table, 'If you please,'
I take from off my bunch of keys;
When friends give anything to me,
I use the little 'thank you' key,
'Excuse me,' 'beg your pardon,' too,
When by mistake some harm I do,
Or if unkindly word I've given,
With 'forgive me' I shall be forgiven;
On a golden ring these keys I'll bind,
This is its motto, 'Be ye kind,'
I'll often use this golden key,
And then a child polite I'll be."

THE WORTH OF A BOY

The following splendid article from the pen of N. C. Schaefer appeared in the Tulalip Bulletin:

What is a boy worth? What is an education worth? An Indiana jury awarded \$599.99 for the killing of a boy. A friend of mine who is a superintendent in West Virginia called that award an outrage. I asked him why. He answered, "To say nothing of the value of the boy's personality and all that a boy is to his father and mother and home, the commercial value of a boy's time at school is more than the award of that Indiana jury." I asked him how he made the calculation. He said:

"You find the value of a boy's time at school by subtracting the earnings of a life of uneducated labor from the earnings of a life of educated labor." Then he gave me a calculation that I have used this year before every institute, for I am anxious to get it into the daily papers, to have it carried to every school-room and put upon every blackboard, so that the pupils may carry it home and discuss it with their parents.

He said: "If an uneducated man earns \$1.50 a day for three hundred days in a year, he does very well, and if he keeps it up for forty years, he will earn \$1.50 x 300 x 40, or \$18,000. An educated man is not generally paid by the day, but by the month and

by the year. If you will strike an average of the earnings of educated men, beginning with the President of the United States, who earns \$75,000 a year, the presidents of the insurance companies and of large railroad companies, and run down the scale until you come to the lower walks in point of earnings among educated men, you will admit that \$1,000 a year is a low average for the earnings of educated labor. For forty years you have \$40,000, the difference, \$22,000, must represent the value of a boy's time spent at school getting an education."

You will admit that a man who works with his hands at unskilled labor puts forth as much muscular effort as a man who earns a livelihood by his wits and education. Now, if \$22,000 represents the value of time a boy spends at school getting an education, what is the value of a day spend at school?

The average school life of every boy and girl in Massachusetts is seven years of two hundred days each; let us say that it takes four years more to get a good education. Reckoning eleven years of two hundred days each, you will find that the twenty-two hundred days at school are equal to \$22,000 and a simple division on the blackboard will bring it home to the comprehension of every boy that each day at school, properly spent, must be worth ten dollars.

One director asks whether it is a violation of the compulsory law if a farmer keeps at home his eleven-year-old boy to plow, because it costs one dollar a day to get some man to do it. While he is putting one dollar into his own pocket, he is robbing the boy of ten dollars in the shape of future earning capacity? Is not that high-handed robbery by the father of his own child?

LITERARY SOCIETIES

Reliance

Promptly at 7 o'clock, December 13, the Reliance Literary Society convened in Room No. 5 in the academic building. The following program was rendered:

The meeting was called to order by the president and the minutes of the last meeting read by the sec-

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