

**GLEANINGS FROM SCHOOL-
LIFE EXPERIENCE, OR, HINTS TO
COMMON SCHOOL TEACHERS,
PARENTS AND PUPILS**

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Gleanings from School-life Experience, Or, Hints to Common School Teachers, parents and pupils by Hiram Orcutt

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HIRAM ORCUTT

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GLEANINGS
FROM
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OR HINTS TO
COMMON SCHOOL TEACHERS,
PARENTS AND PUPILS.

BY
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PRINCIPAL OF NORTH GRANVILLE LADIES' SEMINARY.

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TO
THE HUNDREDS OF HIS PUPILS,
WHO, AS PRACTICAL TEACHERS, HAVE DONE HONOR
TO THE PROFESSION,
THIS LITTLE VOLUME IS RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED
BY THEIR FAITHFUL FRIEND AND FORMER
TEACHER—THE AUTHOR.

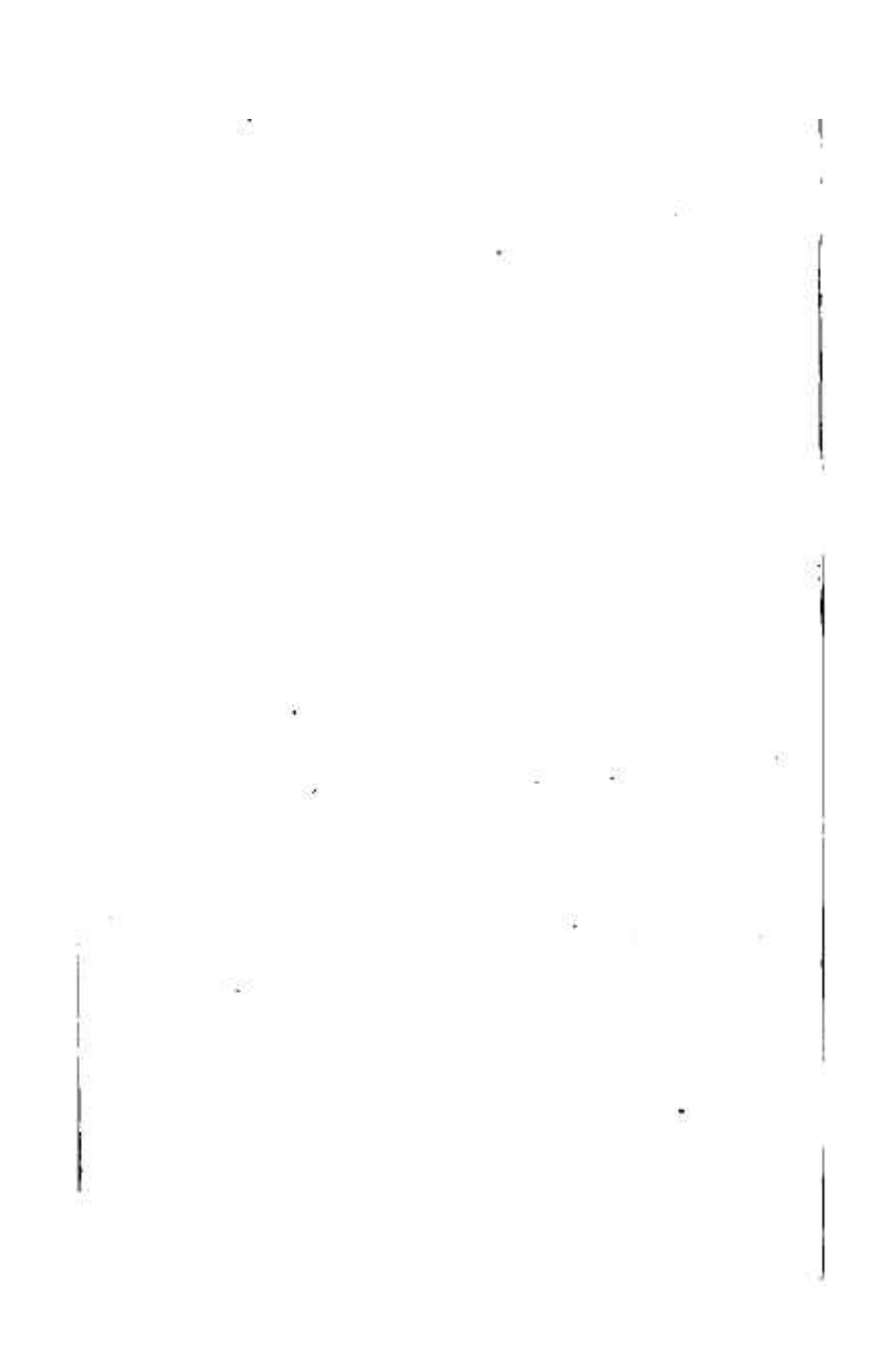
P R E F A C E .

THIS little book had its origin in EXPERIENCE. It was not, originally, written with a view of publication but for the benefit of the Author's Normal Classes. The substance of these chapters has been recently published in the form of newspaper articles for the benefit of those employed in Teaching District Schools in this vicinity. It is now republished in a more permanent form, by the solicitation of Teachers and friends, and with the hope of aiding the less experienced in the arduous and noble work of school-keeping. The Author does not aim to discuss, at length, the subjects here treated, but to present to the reader just what the title page indicates, some "Gleanings" from twenty years experience, or practical "Hints" as to the management and instruction of "Common Schools," and the duties of Teachers, Parents and Pupils.

NORTH GRANVILLE, N. Y., Aug. 15, 1868.

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I.

IMPORTANCE OF THE TEACHER'S WORK.

THE Teacher and the Artist have their own peculiar fields of labor, but how insignificant the work of the Artist when compared with that of the true Teacher. The one works upon the stone or the canvas, the other upon the undying spirit; the one creates an imitation of the form and figure of the lifeless body, the other moulds the living and renowned character of the hero, the statesman and the sage. The Artist may attract attention as a man of genius, and his works may be admired as evidence of inimitable skill; but the true teacher will be remembered with gratitude and admiration by the hundreds who have profited by his instructions, long after he is dead.

The great sculptor, Hiram Powers, has recently completed the bust of the distinguished

Edward Everett, which is said to be unsurpassed by any artist, either in ancient or modern times. Yet, how much greater the work, and more distinguished the artist, who aided in forming the mind of that same Everett, now acknowledged to be the greatest living orator. When but ten years old, young Everett sat before Daniel Webster and received from him, as his teacher, the rudiments of education. More than half a century afterwards, when both teacher and pupil had attained the most distinguished honors and the highest position among their fellow men—the one having passed off the stage of life, leaving the other without a living superior—the pupil sat for his bust before the artist, Powers.

Now, to whom shall we award the praise? to the Artist, or the Teacher? to the distinguished Powers, or the immortal Webster and his co-laborers in this work of education? But the occupation of the Teacher is not only honorable, but of great importance. He is a patron of society. To him is committed the work of training mind and forming character, and at a period