

**EDUCATIONAL ESSAYS; OR, PRACTICAL
OBSERVATIONS ON THE INTELLECTUAL
AND MORAL TRAINING AND
SCHOLASTIC DISCIPLINE OF YOUTH;
HOME AND COLONIAL EDUCATION**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649484072

Educational Essays; Or, Practical Observations on the Intellectual and Moral Training and Scholastic Discipline of Youth; Home and Colonial Education by S. Skinner

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

S. SKINNER

**EDUCATIONAL ESSAYS; OR, PRACTICAL
OBSERVATIONS ON THE INTELLECTUAL
AND MORAL TRAINING AND
SCHOLASTIC DISCIPLINE OF YOUTH;
HOME AND COLONIAL EDUCATION**

DEDICATION.

TO THE VERY REVEREND H. B. MACARTNEY, D.D.
DEAN AND ARCHDEACON OF MELBOURNE.

VERY REVEREND SIR,

Encouraged by the great and growing interest manifested by all classes of the community in the cause of Education, and anxious to contribute in some degree, however slight, to the advancement of so important an object, I have long desired to lay before the public of Victoria and the adjacent Colonies some of the results of forty years' experience as a Schoolmaster.

With this purpose in view, I was naturally led to seek the countenance of one whose earnest and continuous efforts have inseparably associated his name with the subject of the following pages; and I therefore rejoice in the privilege of dedicating this work to you, Sir, to whose exertions much that is hopeful in our educational prospects may be justly attributed.

With sentiments of unfeigned respect, I have the honour to subscribe myself,

Very Reverend Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

STEPHEN SKINNER.

PREFACE.

THE early part of this work was published some years since, in a separate form; and having been very favourably received by the Public and the Periodical Critics of the day, has been for some time out of print. It has now undergone a thorough revision to adapt it to the peculiar requirements of the Australian Colonies; but a considerable portion, having been written during a fourteen years' residence in Victoria, will be perceived to have a more direct reference to its peculiar capabilities and aspect, as a grand field for educational advancement. The Author may be permitted to add that, although chiefly addressed to Parents and Guardians, and to Gentlemen who have recently engaged in, or are preparing for, the scholastic profession, yet, at this important period of our political existence, the work may perhaps be found suggestive to others whose influence in our councils may prove of paramount importance;—now, especially, when our political *status* in the community of nations seems mainly to depend, under Divine Providence, on the direction given to our Educational Institutions.

A life-time devoted to the Theory and Practice of Education, as an Author and a Schoolmaster, may perhaps be thought to justify some degree of confidence in the correctness of the views here presented, and the conclusions arrived at; having been tested by long experience, and sanctioned by success.

PREFACE TO FIRST EDITION.

MOST of the following Essays having previously appeared in periodical works connected with education, it has been suggested to the author that their re-publication, in a collected form, might tend to promote the object to which the greater part of his life has been devoted—the benefit of the rising generation.

To such an appeal, so supported; originating too with persons having a deep interest in the subject—the Parents and Friends of his pupils—he felt neither inclined, nor indeed at liberty, to demur; and the present volume is the result. How far it may have the tendency attributed to it, must be determined by more impartial judges than the friends of the author;—he will only state that should the anticipations of its promoters be realized, two other parts, the one on the “Moral” and the other on the “Physical Education of Youth,” are intended to follow in quick succession.

The present portion, it may be observed, appears under the peculiar disadvantage, that the papers of which it consists having been published separately, and at various times, they will probably be found deficient in that dependant connexion, and unity of design, which might otherwise have been imparted to them.

Two letters are subjoined, containing further illustrations of the topics previously considered, and replies to certain objections which appeared, some time since, in the “English Journal of Education.”

Winchmore-Hill Academy,
July 10th, 1844.

CONTENTS.

	Page
DEDICATION	iii
PREFACE	v
PREFACE TO FIRST EDITION	vii
CONTENTS	ix
INTRODUCTION	xi

ESSAYS.

I.	
ON FIRST IMPRESSIONS	1
II.	
ON THE ORDER IN WHICH THE MENTAL FACULTIES USUALLY UNFOLD THEMSELVES; CONSIDERED IN REFERENCE TO EDUCATION	9
III.	
ON THE EARLY FORMATION OF STUDIOUS HABITS	16
IV.	
FALLACIES OF EDUCATION	24
V.	
ON THE MEANS OF EXCITING DILIGENCE IN STUDY	28
VI.	
ON FAMILIAR LECTURES, IN CONNEXION WITH THE INTER- ROGATIVE SYSTEM OF INSTRUCTION	37
VII.	
ON DISCRIMINATION OF CHARACTER, IN REFERENCE TO EDUCATION	48
VIII.	
HINTS FOR A PRACTICAL METHOD OF TEACHING ELOCUTION IN SCHOOLS	56