

**THE POISON FOUNTAIN: OR, ANTI-
PARENTAL EDUCATION. ESSAYS
AND DISCUSSIONS ON THE SCHOOL
QUESTION FROM A PARENTAL AND
NON-SECTARIAN STANDPOINT**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649676248

The Poison Fountain: Or, Anti-Parental Education. Essays and Discussions on the School Question from a Parental and Non-Sectarian Standpoint by Zach. Montgomery

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ZACH. MONTGOMERY

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THE POISON FOUNTAIN

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ESSAYS AND DISCUSSIONS ON THE

SCHOOL QUESTION

FROM A PARENTAL AND NON-SECTARIAN STANDPOINT.

WHEREIN THE DECLINE OF PARENTAL AUTHORITY, THE DOWNFALL OF FAMILY GOVERNMENT, AND THE TERRIBLE GROWTH OF CRIME, PAUPERISM, INSANITY AND SUICIDES, IN AMERICA, ARE TRACED DIRECTLY AND UNMISTAKABLY TO OUR ANTI-PARENTAL PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM.

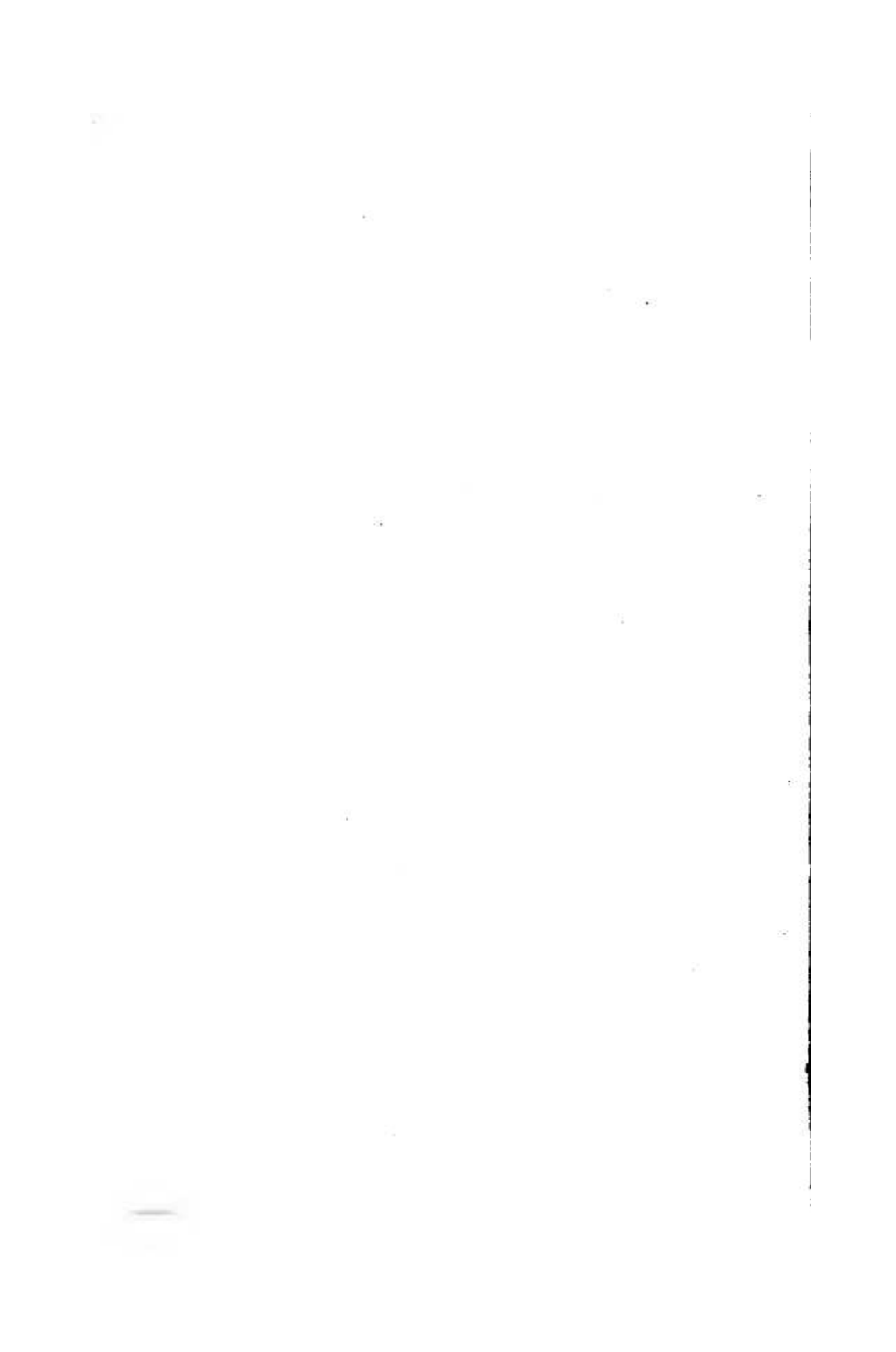
BY

ZACH. MONTGOMERY,

Of the California Bar.

SAN FRANCISCO:
PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHOR.
1878.

TO ALL
CHILD-LOVING FATHERS AND MOTHERS
OF AMERICA, WITHOUT DISTINCTION OF CREED OR PARTY,
IS THIS LITTLE VOLUME MOST RESPECT-
FULLY DEDICATED BY
ITS AUTHOR.



A WORD OF INTRODUCTION.

THIS book is intended to present a platform of universally recognized principles, whereon religionists of all denominations and non-religionists can and must unite, if they would move one step in the direction of educational reform. It traces the decline and downfall of parental authority, the ruin of family government, and the alarming increase of crime, pauperism, insanity and suicides in the United States, directly and unmistakably to our anti-parental public school system, and draws a parallel between the State system of education on the one hand, and the parental system on the other; giving the proof, in actual official figures, to show that those trained under the former system furnish, in proportion to population, six criminals for every one furnished by those trained under the latter system.

Let nobody condemn this book before he knows its contents. When on the ides of March, Julius Cæsar was on his way to the Roman capitol, where a band of conspirators were in waiting to take his life, it is related that one Artemidorus handed him a small piece of writing, to inform him of the danger which awaited him at the capitol, and urged him to read the little document immediately, as it was of great importance to himself. Indeed, so urgent was Artemidorus in his request, that the great Emperor, becoming impatient, exclaimed: "What! is the fellow mad?" How much better it would have been for Cæsar, had he read the note before deciding on the question of his friend's madness!

We now say to every parent into whose hands this little book may fall, and whose children are going to our anti-parental

schools, for God's sake, for the sake of your children, and of your own domestic happiness, stop one moment and read just the first ten pages of the facts—the stubborn, undisputed and indisputable facts and figures,—contained in this volume, and we promise that you yourself will say that there is in the public school-room a danger more to be dreaded than was that which awaited Julius Cæsar at the Roman capitol on the ides of March.

Now don't, as Cæsar did, say "What! is the fellow mad?" Wait until you have first read the document, lest the fruit of your folly be as bitter, if not as bloody, as that of Cæsar's.

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