

**CHARACTER  
FORMING  
IN SCHOOL**

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Character forming in school by F. H. Ellis

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**F. H. ELLIS**

**CHARACTER  
FORMING  
IN SCHOOL**



the  
Teach

# CHARACTER FORMING IN SCHOOL

BY

F. H. ELLIS

WATLEY ROAD SCHOOL, HALIFAX

Thou must be true thyself,  
If thou the truth wouldst teach ;  
Thy soul must overflow, if thou  
Another soul would reach.  
It needs the overflow of heart  
To give the lips full speech.

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1907

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## PREFACE

We shall be what you will make us.  
Make us wise and make us good ;  
Make us strong for time of trial,  
Teach us temperance, self-denial,  
Patience, kindness, fortitude.

EVERY book on education asserts that character building is the chief function of the teacher. The more recent the book, the more emphatic the assertion ; and every thoughtful teacher endorses the statement. Of course, now that it is an accepted axiom, the wise can say that Plato definitely taught it, that Pestalozzi and Froebel had that ideal constantly in view, and that Herbart insisted that all instruction which does not develop character is useless.

The following pages have been compiled to show how the theory has become practice in a large elementary school, the ages of the children ranging from three to fourteen years of age.

The lessons are printed, just as they were prepared and given by the teacher. The weekly "schemes" are copied from the teachers' notebooks, and the compositions are those done by the children during the week they have been studying and practising the particular Thought they have written upon.

In no instance has the wording of the children's essays been altered, but errors in spelling and grammar have been corrected. The essays are only printed to show that

the children have assimilated the teachings given and have "ideas of self-discipline, which follow, when they have thoroughly grasped the moral instruction given."<sup>1</sup>

In the infants' school, a thought for one month only is taken. The teaching there is of a very concrete character, and very positive—preparatory for the teaching to be given in the upper school.

A scheme of work is printed for the infants' school to show how the ethical idea permeates all the work.

My sincere thanks are due to the staff of my school for assisting in the compilation of this little book, and in loyally carrying out the ideas embodied in it.

Grateful acknowledgments are also due to the following authors and publishers for permission to use their poems and songs :—

The Songs and Music of Frederick Froebel's Mother Play. Prepared and arranged by Susan E. Blow. Publisher : Edward Arnold, 37 Bedford Street, Strand, London.

Songs for Little Children. Composed and arranged by Eleanor Smith. Published by J. Curwen and Sons.

Chimes for Children. By B. and R. W. Hawkins. Published by W. and R. Chambers.

The Lotus Song Book. Katherine Thigley, Raja Yoga School, Point Loma, California.

Songs of Happy Life. Published by Geo. Bell and Sons.

Music for the Kindergarten. By Eleanor Heerwart. Boosey and Co.

Golden Boat Action Song. By L. Ormiston Chant. Published by J. Curwen and Sons.

Peeps at Playtime. Published by Chas. Dibble.

All the Year Round. Strong, Ginn and Co.

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Sophie Bryant.

# CONTENTS

## INFANTS' SCHOOL

	PAGE
INTRODUCTION . . . . .	1
CORRELATION FOR FOUR MONTHS { JANUARY FEBRUARY MARCH APRIL }	13
ONE WEEK'S WORK—CENTRAL THOUGHT: LOVE . . . . .	21
ONE MONTH'S CORRELATION " " . . . . .	23
ONE WEEK'S WORK " OBEDIENCE . . . . .	27
ONE MONTH'S CORRELATION " " . . . . .	29
ONE WEEK'S WORK " UNSELFISHNESS . . . . .	33
ONE MONTH'S CORRELATION " " . . . . .	36
ONE WEEK'S WORK " COURAGE . . . . .	45
ONE MONTH'S CORRELATION " " . . . . .	48
ONE WEEK'S WORK " SELF-CONTROL . . . . .	51
ONE MONTH'S CORRELATION " " . . . . .	53
ONE WEEK'S WORK " HARMONY . . . . .	59
ONE MONTH'S CORRELATION " " . . . . .	62
ONE WEEK'S WORK " JOY . . . . .	65
ONE MONTH'S CORRELATION " " . . . . .	67
STORY—EARTH STARS . . . . .	71
GAME—STORY DRAMATIZED . . . . .	75
MUSIC FOR GAME . . . . .	79
NATURE TALK—"FEBRUARY'S HELPERS" . . . . .	87



## viii CHARACTER FORMING IN SCHOOL

	PAGE
STORY—"THE LITTLE SNOW FAIRIES"	92
GAME—STORY DRAMATIZED	94
MUSIC FOR GAME	97
REFERENCE BOOKS	98

## GIRLS' SCHOOL

TABLE OF WEEKLY THOUGHTS	105
SUGGESTIONS TO HEAD TEACHERS	110
RESOLUTIONS	113
SELF-REVERENCE	115
SELF-KNOWLEDGE	116
SELF-CONTROL	118
HARMONY	120
JOY	121
IDEALS	122
LOYALTY	124
ALTRUISM	125
SELF-RELIANCE	126
TEMPERANCE	127
DRUDGERY	128
GENTLENESS	130
THANKFULNESS	131
OBEDIENCE	132
GOODWILL	133
PERSEVERANCE	134
TRUTHFULNESS	135
CO-OPERATION	136
STANDARD VI—TEACHER'S WEEKLY SCHEME OF LESSONS (CO-OPERATION)	142
STANDARD IV " " " (CO-OPERATION)	146
STANDARD II " " " "	149

## CONTENTS

	ix
	PAGE
LESSON ON DOMESTIC ECONOMY . . . . .	153
"    HISTORY . . . . .	157
"    GRAMMAR . . . . .	161
"    FERTILIZATION . . . . .	163
"    DRILL . . . . .	169
"    GEOGRAPHY . . . . .	173
CHILDREN'S COMPOSITIONS ON CO-OPERATION . . . . .	175
TEACHERS' WEEKLY SCHEME OF LESSONS (TEMPERANCE) . . . . .	189
CHILDREN'S COMPOSITIONS ON TEMPERANCE . . . . .	192
TEACHERS' WEEKLY SCHEME OF LESSONS (HARMONY) . . . . .	199
CHILDREN'S COMPOSITIONS ON HARMONY . . . . .	202
LIST OF POEMS SUITABLE FOR ETHICAL TEACHING . . . . .	207
SHORT NOTES ON SOME OF THE CHARACTER STUDIES . . . . .	211

