

proper breeding place and rearing ground of intellect—of the best elements of our people to be swallowed up or deteriorated in our big towns. Not less untenable than the notion that the agricultural laborer was dull of intellect was the idea that the city urchin was cleverer and better endowed mentally than the little yokel. The rule seemed to be that the mental development of children was hastened by city life, but soon stopped short. Up till thirteen or fourteen years of age they were precocious and then came to a standstill. City life at its best was bad for children, involving, as it did, early puberty, exciting distraction, superficiality of knowledge, insufficient repose and the want of soothing influences that the country afforded; and at its worst, when it meant a tight squeeze in squalid dwellings, poor food, foul air, contact with vice and manifold temptations, it was utterly demoralizing. It seemed obvious that, if the city went on growing at the nineteenth century rate, and under nineteenth century conditions, it would dry up the reservoirs of strength in the population and leave an immense proletariat of inferior quality and without commanders.

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#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

MOSES A. DROPSIE, of Philadelphia, formerly president of Gratz College, has bequeathed about \$600,000, for the endowment of a college for the study of Hebrew literature and Rabbinical learning in that city. There are to be no restrictions in admission as to creed, sex or color.

THE Department of Chemistry of Washington and Lee University is being reequipped this summer in new quarters. In all fourteen rooms will be occupied, nearly the whole of the old main building of the university being given over to the departments of chemistry, geology and biology.

LOGAN HALL, containing the anatomical and surgical departments of the University of Pennsylvania, was burned on August 14, en-

tailing a loss of about forty thousand dollars. Many microscopes were destroyed.

WE learn from *Nature* that probate has been granted of the will of Mr. John Innes, of Merton, Surrey, who died on August 8, 1904, leaving the sum of about £200,000 for public and charitable purposes. Among other bequests he left his house, the Manor Farm, Merton, and two acres of ground, "to establish thereon a school of horticulture or such other technical or industrial institution as the law will allow, to give technical instruction in the principles of the science and art of horticulture and the necessary physical and mental training incidental thereto; to erect suitable buildings and furnish them, and to provide workshops, tools, plant, scientific apparatus, libraries, reading-rooms, lecture and drill halls, a swimming bath and gymnasium. If this may not be legally carried out, then to establish in these buildings a public museum for the exhibition of collections of paintings and similar works of art, objects of natural history, or of mechanical or philosophic inventions, and to lay out land for a park."

THE Draper's Company has made a further grant of £5,000 for an extension of the premises of the East London Technical College.

THE University of Melbourne has received a largely increased endowment from the government of Victoria on condition of instituting a course for a degree in agriculture. The necessary arrangements for such a course have now been made, and the university is inviting applications in England and America for a professorship of botany and a lectureship in biochemistry in connection with the school of agriculture. A new professor of anatomy is also to be appointed for the medical school.

MR. S. HERBERT COX has been appointed to the professorship of mining at the Royal School of Mines, South Kensington, vacant on the death of Sir Clement le Neve Foster.

MR. EDWARD WARD, who has held the professorship of surgery in Leeds for the past six years, has resigned and will be succeeded by Mr. Harry Littlewood.

DR. RICHARD WILLSTÄTER, associate professor of chemistry at Munich, has resigned.