A TREATISE ON PEDAGOGY FOR YOUNG TEACHERS

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A Treatise on Pedagogy for Young Teachers by Edwin C. Hewett

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EDWIN C. HEWETT

A TREATISE ON PEDAGOGY FOR YOUNG TEACHERS



A TREATISE

ON

PEDAGOGY

FOR YOUNG TEACHERS

BY

EDWIN C. HEWETT, LL.D.

President of the Illinois State Normal University



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PREFACE.

This little book is a growth. Into that growth, several elements have entered: among them are the author's experience as a pupil, first in the country district schools of New England; and his experience, for more than thirty years, as a teacher; together with the digested results of his reading and-thinking on educational themes. He has here embodied the substance of his instruction to many successive classes in Normal Schools, and the substance of numerous addresses before Teachers' Institutes and other educational meetings.

No attempt has been made to amplify any of the topics treated; on the contrary, a constant and persistent effort has been made to condense to the utmost limit consistent with clearness.

This is not a book of methods, although a few methods will be found in it. Its aim is, rather, to present, in a brief and compact form, such principles as underlie and give form to all methods worthy of attention.

As the title implies, the book has been written with special regard to the needs of young teachers, or of candidates for the teacher's office. But the author does not expect that such young persons will be able to master the book by a cursory reading; be does, however, flatter himself that young persons of good ability will be able to master the book thoroughly by careful and patient study.

Psychology is made the basis of the treatise; the author believes that in no other way can the subject be treated in a rational or scientific manner. Nothing in the present trend of educational thought is more marked than the growing desire to found all systems and methods of educational training on the principles revealed by a thorough inductive study of human nature.

Complete "Schemes" have been introduced, because the author has found that they were very helpful to his own students in their efforts to grasp and retain these subjects in an orderly and methodical way. If they are faithfully used, he believes that they may do the same good service for the reader that they have done for his students in the classroom.

The author does not flatter himself that every reader will yield a ready assent to all his statements; but he has given his opinions freely, as they have been formed in the light of his own thinking and experience. He bespeaks for them a candid consideration, and an acceptance, if, after careful thought, they shall seem reasonable.

Originality is by no means claimed for all that is here presented. The author has freely availed himself of any thing that his judgment commended, wherever it might be found. Yet, he has rarely expressed himself in the words of another.

This little book is sent forth with the hope that it may be found of some value in Normal Schools, Teachers' Classes, and Teachers' Institutes, as well as in the private reading of teachers, and, it may be added, of parents, also. If it shall contribute something to improve the training of the youth of our country, and to bring upon the stage of active life a generation better fitted to enjoy its privileges and to discharge its duties worthily, the author will be fully repaid for his labor.

EDWIN C. HEWETT.

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