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TOGETHER WITH SPECIMENS IN THE
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ENGROSSING AND ITALIAN HANDS,
AND UPWARDS OF
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TO the Instructer in the Commercial Academy, to the majority of Gentlemen connected with Private Tuition, and to every individual anxious to arrive at a superiority in Penmanship, the advantages of this Work are so self-evident, that it were quite superfluous to extend our observations beyond some few peculiarities, and what may be considered indispensable by way of general direction: we would nevertheless impress on the mind of the tyro, that good writing is alone attainable—

.................. when in the pliant hand

With softness, strength, with ornaments not vain,
Loose with proportion, and with actions plain;
Not swell’d, yet full, complete in every part;
And artful most, when least affecting art.

GENERAL DIRECTIONS.

THE PEN.—The more transparent the quill, the better the pen: the slit should not exceed the fourth of an inch, and its extent may be partially limited by a firm pressure of the left-hand thumb-nail on the back: the two shoulders should accurately correspond in proportion, each neatly tapering to a fine point; the back of the nib must be cut in a slanting direction, like the chamfered side of a chisel, and, for general writing, the one range even with the other, which, for small hand, should exceed little more than a point (Plate, No. 1); for large hand, it must be a little broader (Plate, No. 2); and for German Text and Inscripting, broader still (Plate, No. 3), the two latter hands requiring an oblique nib, that to the right being a little extended.

POSITION.—The bottom of the paper must be placed in a level position, that is, either corner equal distant from the body, and so arranged that the right eye may fall opposite the commencement of the line: the pen should be held about an inch from the nib, leave the knuckle a little in front of the fore-finger, forming an angle of about forty-five degrees, and be pressed lightly between the thumb and first and second fingers, whilst the third and fourth must be placed nearly central between those and the palm of the hand, and only sufficiently touch the paper to guide the hand steadily along, the top of the pen falling immediately opposed the right shoulder: the body should very slightly incline, and its weight be exceedingly light, and alone press upon the left hand, leaving the right entirely free, which, from the elbow to the shoulder, should be pressed close to the side, whilst the action of the pen ought to proceed principally from the thumb and fore and second fingers, the hand gliding gently along the line: either nib should press equally upon the paper, and the slope of the letters form an angle of about thirty-five degrees.

PROPORTIONS, &c.—All the curved and all the circular forms should bear an equal proportion to each other, and the height of the Capitals rather exceed that of the ascending letters, which must be partially regulated according to the choice of the writer; taking, however, the two extremes of Large Text and Small-hand, we would say, that these, in the former, may exceed about the depth of the line, and descend once and one-half its depth; and in the latter (Plate 1.), their height may equal three times its depth, and their length below, four times those dimensions: whilst in Running-hand (Plate 2), they should triflingly exceed the length of those in a hand assuming less freedom, as in Plate 1., remember, also, that the looped stems, with the exception of f, g, and y, are alone confined to Running-hand, that they must always extend beyond those without loops in hand, and should range below the other characters, and p a little above the level of the line.

SYSTEM, No. 1.—This System may be termed a round-hand, and is perfectly well suited to commercial business, both as regards its beauty and perspicuity, and therefore highly preferable for the main portion of the community. We have given lessons in regular gradation, beginning with the lines and curves; after some progress with these, one, two, three, four, five, and finally, in the form copies, commencing with the large, and gradually diminishing to the small round text.

ORNAMENTAL CHARACTERS.—In the arrangement and display of these, it was considered sufficient to select such a single letter as should partially represent the varied combinations of the others: accordingly R, as embracing their more common formation, has been chosen, and will, we apprehend, be an ample sufficient guide to any mind of moderate literary attainment. But, in order to a correct delineation of the whole, at the end of the work are given Alphabets in the Roman, Italic, Antique, Slanted, and Gothic characters, each (as generally more accurate in their proportions), being impression from movable types. The German Text, Old English, &c., are of course susceptible of numerous internal variations, and the effect of the whole might be considerably heightened by an occasional list of coloured inks.

SCHOOL PIECE.—As our Work is more especially intended for the use of Schools, we thought the following would suit exceedingly well for a Christmas piece. The lines might be displayed in a variety of the ornamental characters, occasionally interpersed with the German Text and Inscripting hand. Of course it may be enlarged to any extent, and, at the option of the writer, considerably varied—

---

Name of Pupil. O YOUTH! O YOUTH! FEAR THE LORD.

ALL THE DAYS OF THY LIFE, AND WALK IN THE PATHS WHICH HE HATH PREPARED BEFORE THEE.

THEREFORE LET

TEMPERANCE restrain THEE.

PRUDENCE admonish THEE.

JUSTICE keep THEE.

BENEVOLENCE warm thy HEART.

Gratitude to Heaven, and—

INSPIRE THEE.

THESE WILL GIVE THEE HAPPINESS IN THY PRESENT STATE, AND BRING THEE TO THE MANSIONS OF ETERNAL FELICITY IN THE PARADISE OF GOD.

Age of Pupil. Where Ac situate.
<table>
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| Avoid that which is evil<br>Be always diligent in business<br>Clear to that which is good<br>Do good unto all men<br>Enter not into temptation<br>Friendly advice do not despise<br>Govern well thy temper<br>Honour thy father and mother<br>Incline thine ear to wisdom<br>Keep no bad companions<br>Lay no wagers<br>Make no long meals<br>Never reveal a secret<br>Owe no men anything<br>Perservere in a good way<br>Proved by no use<br>Quarrel with no one<br>Repeat no grievances<br>Seek after instruction<br>Triumph in well doing<br>Unity is ever desirable<br>Waste spent thy feet<br>Whoever you are, an inhabitant of New Zealand, a country<br>AN an<br>BO bo<br>CD EF GH IJ KLM NOPQRST<br>FGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

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