

## THESIS.

Subject: *The Training of the Will.*

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The will is the power of deciding, or determining what to do, and is thus the cause of our actions both mentally and physically.

The will has been very much neglected and abused in education, but the importance of it, as the executive power of the mind is readily seen. It lies at the basis of all high achievements in the intellectual and physical world.

A strong will gives strength and dignity to

Character, cultivates firmness  
and courage for these are  
essential in forming a high  
and noble character. Characters  
formed by circumstances, are  
worthless, they usually lack  
order, harmony, consistency,  
and beauty, the very elements  
of a good character.

One brave will to  
resist evil and hold fast  
to good is worth a million  
of such characters. Strength  
of will shows itself in  
other relations and stations  
of life, as well as in character.

for example, in oratory, govern-  
ment, religion, and discovery.

Will has full control  
of the mind, it directs its  
every move. Some one has  
said, "The intellect is the  
legislative department, the  
sensibilities are the judicial  
department, and the will  
the executive."

The cause of almost  
every failure in life is from  
the lack of will power.  
Therefore should we not  
each and every one make  
the training of the will our

most earnest study. But let us see how this training of will so desirable, so essential, to true greatness and nobleness of character may be obtained.

The training of the will is one of the most important duties of the teacher, and is more difficult than the training of the intellect.

He should know that the weak will needs to be stimulated, the careless and unreliable child should be taught courage and self-reliance, and trained to

discharge with promptness  
the duties of life, that the  
will of a child should  
never be broken, but trained  
in the right direction, for  
one who has a strong  
will possesses great power;  
to break it would be a  
fatal mistake. The teacher  
should guide such a will  
in the right channel, and  
the child may grow to be a  
great hero whom the world  
honors for their noble deeds.

The training of the  
will should begin with

the child in securing control over the organs of movement, by allowing the child to find out as much as possible for himself.

One of the greatest things in the training of the will is obedience, in this case the child's powers should be consulted, so as not to demand what is beyond these, and the mother or teacher who has accomplished this has greatly strengthened the will of the child.

It is a gradual process, and the teacher should not expect the pupil to accomplish this at once. If he fails because he has not concentrated his mind it is the pupils fault, but if he fails because his powers have not been sufficiently exercised it is the teachers fault, and the teacher should be careful not to give work beyond the capability of the pupil.

In this way the child learns good from evil.



how to safeguard health,  
character, and not only  
the things of this life,  
but to direct his thoughts  
to the hereafter.

After considering  
these points, the child should  
be taught to decide with  
promptness, and act with  
energy in the many small  
and less important af-  
airs of life, and to carry  
out a purpose once formed  
with persistency, even in  
trivial matters.

It would be well

for every person, but more especially for the young, to accustom them to investigate specific acts, historical, or all great achievements, and determine whether the above observations were due to strength of will, and how far success or failure was affected by adherence.

Among the many school studies mathematics is most important for strengthening the will, because it is a difficult study.

and requires persistent  
and determined effort for  
success.

The boy who determines  
to work the hard problem,  
who refuses assistance  
from schoolmates and teach-  
ers, who sits up all night  
to master difficult problems,  
is obtaining will power,  
that is the promise of a  
strength of character, that  
will accomplish things  
in future life.

That will is  
best trained that constantly

waits on season, and  
listens only to the best  
motives.