Education in its truest and highest sense is training and developing the mind. The acquisition of knowledge is secondary. The ultimate purpose of all disciplinary mental training is to enlarge and sharpen the intellectual powers, to give them acuteness, force and grasp. In this enlargement of the powers of the higher self, one must himself put forth those energies which result in his growth.

The word education is derived from the Latin verb *educare*, a sort of frequentative verb, signifying to lead or draw forth repeatedly, persistently. In a secondary sense it means to draw forth faculties, to cultivate and train them. Thus education is the process of drawing forth continuously and habitually the powers of the mind, thereby developing and magnifying them.

Pestalozzi has laid down the immortal principle that “self-activity is a necessary condition, under which the mind educates itself and gains power and independence.” The upshot of this principle is that the student must owe everything to his own exertions. The instructor can only inspire, encourage and direct.

Self-exercise is Nature’s law of growth. The infant augments its strength by constantly using it. Exercise, almost unremitting and unceasing, is its very life; now wriggling in its mother’s arms, now crying and bawling to expand its lungs, and now grasping at things near, or turning to look at bright objects.

Given the fertile egg; keep it for a sufficient period of time under certain conditions of heat, moisture and position, and of its own nature-given verity, it will be transformed into a healthy chick.

Let the soil be fertile, the gentle rain come and warm sunbeams glow; soon the acorn becomes an oak by its own mysterious vitality; a giant of the forest seemingly conscious of
its own strength and endurance, and defying the storm and other hostile forces of nature.

These illustrations point out the method of nature; that growth, development, is subjective, from within, from an inherent principle which is summoned into exercise.

This law applies with peculiar force to the awakened mind.

Let the sunshine of knowledge warm the dormant mental faculties; now it quickens them to activity; at once the mysterious process of self-evolution is begun, and in due time the mind develops the fullness of its powers. The latent powers and capabilities must be worked by their possessor, not for him, but by him. This self-struggle is ordained of God. In the words of Hesiod, "The gods have placed sweat in the pathway to excellence." Mrs. Browning conveys the same idea in her words, "Knowledge by suffering entereth." There is no royal
road. Ptolemy's son and the slave must tread the same high-
way. Says Spencer in his "Intellectual Education," "Human-
ity has progressed solely by self-instruction; and to achieve the 
best results, each mind must progress somewhat after the same 
fashion."

The mind aroused and quickened to activity by the inspired 
teacher, will soon stretch out and enlarge its substance; and 
under his proper guidance, of necessity will unfold and develop 
the power to reason correctly and the capability to think inde­
pendently. Should not this be fulfilled in any scheme of edu­
cation?

Secondary or high school education is based upon the prin-
ciple laid down above and uniformly aims at the development 
of mental power. It seeks to train harmoniously the various 
faculties of the mind; to awaken the student to self-activity; 
to form in him regular habits of study; to lay a substantial 
and appropriate foundation for further study; and among other 
things, to prepare for citizenship and the great workshop of 
the world. In fulfilling its requirements the successful student 
must possess "courage in attacking difficulties, patient concen­
tration of the attention, and perseverance through failures." 
These three, courage, concentration, perseverance, are the vir­
tues which the practice of requiring of the student individual 
and independent effort fosters.

His success is determined by what he can do, and by what 
he does for himself; in short, by his own power of achieving.

The watchword is development through self-effort.