

*The "How I was Educated" Papers*, from the Forum Magazine. [D. Appleton & Co. 30c.]

A delightful "experience meeting" is reported in these eleven papers by men who have been all their lives prominent in educational work. They are full of suggestive hints, and one reads them with undivided interest. Perhaps the most noteworthy thing about them is the agreement of all with regard to the futility of mere scholasticism. "My experience with schools and with the college teaches me to distrust all the mechanisms of education," says Dr. Hale. "When I finally parted company with the University, I had made the discovery that my education was just beginning," is Mr. Higginson's conclusion. President Barnard remembers with gratitude his voluntary apprenticeship in a printer's office, and asserts that "a man's education must be mainly his own work." Chancellor Vincent did not have a college training. "I am at school now as a student every day," is his closing remark. "All higher education is essentially self-education," Prof. W. T. Harris decides. "Teachers do not make the scholars. The impulse comes chiefly from within." President Kendrick maintains that his real education began only when he entered the ministry. President Dwight dwells upon "the importance of the family life in giving the impulse to intellectual growth." President Robinson says: "To the teachers into whose hands I fell during the first sixteen years of my life I find it impossible to be grateful." President Angell got the best part of his early education in a college library and a newspaper office. President White began "the most real part" of his education when he entered upon the duties of a college professorship. The whole series ought to be read by every educator and by parents who would have a proper understanding of what true education is. Teachers and text-books are not decried; the leading idea of all the men who have spoken in these papers is the importance of developing the inner impulse toward the acquirement of knowledge, and the inestimable value of association with strong, vigorous, stimulating minds.