

The Modern Teacher.

'Twas Saturday night, and a teacher sat
Alone, her task pursuing;
She averaged this and she averaged that
Of all that her class was doing.
She reckoned percentage so many boys,
And so many girls all counted,
And marked all the tardy absentees,
And to what their absence amounted.

Name and residence wrote in full
Over many columns and pages;
Canadian, Teutonic, African, Celt,
And averaged all their ages,
The date of admission of every one,
And cases of flagellation,
And prepared a list of graduates
For the county examination.

Her weary head sank low on her book,
And her weary heart still lower;
For some of her pupils had little brains,
And she could not furnish them with more.
She slept, she dreamed, it seemed she died,
And her spirit went to Hades,
And they met her there with a question fair:
"State what the per cent. of your grade is!"

Ages slowly rolled away,
Leaving but partial traces,
And the teacher's spirit walked one day
In the old familiar places.
A mound of fossilized school reports
Attracted her observation,
As high as the State House dome and as
wide
As Boston since annexation.

She came to the spot where they buried her
bones,
And the ground was well built over;
But laborers digging threw a skull
Once planted beneath the clover.
A disciple of Galen, wandering by,
Paused to look at the diggers,
And, picking the skull up, looked through
the eye
And saw it was lined with figures.

"Just as I thought," said the young M. D.,
"How easy it is to tell 'em!"
Statistics ossified every fold
Of cerebrum and cerebellum."
"It's a great curiosity, sure," said Pat,
"By the bones you can tell the creature!"
"Oh, nothing strange," said the doctor;
"That
"Was a nineteenth century teacher."
—Boston Globe.

Teacher—Now I have explained to
you the difference between good and
evil, tell me what sort of little boys go
to heaven.

Billy Snooks (promptly)—Dead 'uns.

Biggs—That man over there is quite
a poet.

Boggs—He looks too prosperous for
that.

Biggs—Oh, he's in the ice business
too.

Mrs. Blank—I married you because
I pitied you—when nobody else thought
anything about you!

Mr. Blank—Ah, well, my dear, every-
body pities me now.

Mr. Stubb—Confound it! We are
going through a tunnel! I hope it isn't
long.

Mrs. Stubb—Ah, John, I remember
the time when you told me you wished
the whole distance was through a tunnel.

She—I don't believe the clock is run-
ning.

He—Oh, yes it is.

She—Well, I'll not dispute you, but
I'm positive that it's not going faster
than a walk this evening.

Cousin Cissie (telling dear little Rob-
bie a tale)—Once upon a time, when
people never married for money—only
for love—

Dear Little Robbie—Here, chuck it!
Don't you think I'm getting too old for
fairy stories?

"You raise a good deal of garden
sass, don't you?" said Jaxon's neighbor
to him over the back fence.

"I'd raise a good deal more of my
wife's sass if I didn't," responded Jax-
on, without discontinuing his labors.

Nannie—Oh, dear, my face is so free-
ckled! It's just awful!

Aunt Hannah—I wouldn't fret, Nan-
nie. Of course the freckles are not
very becoming; but then, you know,
they serve to cover up your features.

First Woman—You've got to retract
what you said about me.

Second Woman—I won't. I never
take anything back.

First Woman—Indeed you don't;
but you'll borrow everything your
neighbors have, if you get a chance.

"No man ever got anything worth
having without working hard for it,"
said Mrs. Bicker to her husband, who
was in a discouraged mood.

"That's so," replied Mr. Bickers re-
flectively. "I remember that I obtain-
ed you without the slightest difficulty."

"Mike," said plodding Pete, "do
you think it does a man much good to
go troo college?"

"Not much," replied Meandering
Mike. "I went troo a college once,
an' all I got was two dictionaries an'
a suit of football clothes. De swag wasn't
wort' de risk."

"I'll never forget," said Senator
Sorghum, "the first time I ran for a
really important office."

"You were elected?"

"I should say so. My plurality was
enormous."

"That must have pleased you."

"Well, I dunno. It worried me a
good deal to discover that we had spent
good money for so many more votes
than we actually needed."

Our Supply of Some Foreign Grown Seeds.

The following article is from the pen
of Mr. G. H. Clark, B. S. A., Chief of
the Seed Division, Department of Agri-
culture:

If the farmers of Canada were ac-
quainted with the sources of supply of
their root crop seeds, and the avenues
through which they pass before reach-
ing them, they would be a great deal
more particular when making their pur-
chases. Practically all the seed for our
root crops is grown in foreign countries.
However important it may be that the
seed for such crops be grown in the
country where it is wanted for sowing,
the cheap labor of these European coun-
tries, which have become the seed gar-
dens of the world, has made the seed
growing industry unprofitable to Cana-
dian farmers or seed specialists.

Our supply of foreign grown seeds is
bought and imported principally by our
larger seed firms. They make their
purchases either by paying a commo-
durate price to reliable European seed
growers, men who grow seed from select-
ed pedigreed stock, or they may buy
seed at a much lower price—seed that
is grown by men whose chief aim has
been to produce a large quantity, inde-
pendent of the quality of the crop it
will produce. In the former case, the
seed is grown from selected plants—
from roots which have an ideal size and
form and which are all known to be
true to name. For instance, an ideal
turnip is one having a small neck and
top growth. Such a root when planted
will produce a comparatively small
growth of stalks, and consequently a
small amount of seed, but the seed from
such a root is apt to produce a crop like
the mother root which was planted. On
the other hand, a small turnip, having
several root prongs and an excessive
growth of top coming from two or three
separate neck growths, will transmit its
like through the seed to the next crop.
Seed can be grown from such roots
much more cheaply than from selected
roots, because, in the first place, the
mother roots are culls, and are not as
valuable for feeding, and, secondly, they
will produce a much larger quantity of
seed.

During the last ten or fifteen years
the seed trade has, to a great extent,
been passing from the hands of seedsmen
who devote all their time to a study
of seeds and the seed trade, into the
hands of local dealers. Unfortunately,
fair competition in the seed trade is
practically impossible, since the appear-
ance of most commercial seeds is but a
slight indication of their real value.
The competition has been, and is, too
largely confined to prices alone. Farm-
ers continue to patronize the local dealer
who is able to quote a low price for
his goods. The local dealer demands a
low priced seed from the wholesale firms,
and in turn there has been a growing
strife among wholesale seed firms in the
buying of cheap goods with which to
supply local dealers. It is well to men-
tion, however, that, through the pro-
gressive spirit of some reliable seed
houses, a limited trade of the best stocks
of root crop seeds has been fostered, and
there is little difficulty experienced
among intelligent farmers in getting the
best quality of seeds, provided they go
the right way about it and are willing
to pay a commensurate price. But
much of the root crop seeds sold in Can-
ada are retailed to the farmer at a price
quite as low as our Canadian seed
houses have to pay reputed European
seed growers for the best seed from se-
lected pedigreed stock.

Appeals have been made, both by
seedsmen and farmers, to place such re-
strictions on the seed trade as will serve
to withdraw the responsibility connected
therewith from the hands of incompe-
tent local dealers. With root crop seeds
this aim may be reached by allowing
only reliable seed houses or seed im-
porters the right to place such goods
on the market; by allowing them to
place goods in sealed packages, each
package to bear the name and conse-
quently the reputation of the seed house;
in the hands of local dealers to be sold
on commission only. Official interfe-
rence in the seed trade may have objec-
tionable features. Perhaps the most
striking example of where legislation
has been applied to improve the condi-
tions under which commercial seeds are
sold is in the State of Maine, where all
seeds sold must be accompanied by a
statement showing the percentage of
pure and vital seeds. They have ex-
tended to their seed trade a modification
of the Act which is used in Canada to
regulate the quality of commercial fer-
tilizers, and the results have clearly
demonstrated that, whatever evils may
accompany an enforced guarantee sys-
tem in connection with the seed trade,
it is an effective way to improve the
quality of commercial seeds, especially
of clover and grasses, of which a great
deal is sold in some districts in Canada
that contains large quantities of noxious
weed seeds, and is a decided injury, not
only to the farmer who buys it, but to
the locality where it is grown.

F. W. HODSON,
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R. B. SYLVESTER, Secretary.

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2.30 p. m. Praise and prayer service on
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Thursday evening at 7.30.

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tor. Services every Sunday at 10.30 a. m.
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every Thursday at 7.30 p. m.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

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12 a. m. till 3 p. m. and in the evening from
7 to 9. Reading room in connection.

POST-OFFICE—F. J. KERR, POSTMAS-
ter. Open daily, Sundays excepted,
from 7.30 a. m. to 7 p. m. Mail going south
closes at 7.35 a. m. Mail going north closes
at 11.25 a. m. Letters for registration
must be posted half an hour previous to the
time for closing the mails.

NEWSPAPER LAW.

1. A postmaster is required to give notice
by letter (returning the paper does not
answer the law), when a subscriber does
not take his paper out of the office and
state the reasons for its not being taken.
Any neglect to do so makes the postmaster
responsible to the publisher for payment.

2. If any person orders his paper discon-
tinued he must pay all arrearages, or the
publisher may continue to send it until
payment is made, and collect the whole
amount, whether it is taken from the office
or not. There can be no legal discontinu-
ance until the payment is made.

3. Any person who takes a paper from
the post-office, whether directed to his
name or another, or whether he has sub-
scribed or not, is responsible for the pay.

4. If a subscriber orders his paper to be
stopped at a certain time, and the pub-
lisher continues to send, the subscriber is
bound to pay for it if he takes it out of the
post-office. This proceeds upon the ground
that a man must pay for what he uses.

5. The courts have decided that refusing
to take newspapers and periodicals from
the post-office, or removing and leaving
them uncalled for, is *prima facie* evidence
of intentional fraud.