

For instance, *walking* is a healthy exercise, *to be honest* is my desire, the boy said *good night*, etc.

My advice to young teachers is, teach thoroughly, don't teach too much at one time. Do not be discouraged, if one half of your class fail to understand your first lesson. We must expect that always. Remember, anyone can teach a sharp pupil, but it requires a teacher to educate a dull one, and not unfrequently the dull pupils do the school the most credit. Above all, study your pupils, and study your subject thoroughly; both need your attention all the time.

An honest teacher never has any time to kill, the days are all too short. Only those teachers who waste their time in hearing their pupils "say their grammar" or "read their lesson," are killing time, and this the true teacher never does.

PROGRESS.

### DR. SHAW AND THE NORMAL SCHOOL.

*To the Editor of the EDUCATIONAL RECORD :*

SIR,—In the January issue of the RECORD there is a report taken from a Montreal daily paper of a recent meeting of the Protestant School Commissioners, at which a reference was made to the Normal School, which requires a word of explanation. At a meeting of the Board some weeks ago Archdeacon Evans sought some favor for a young woman who had failed in the Christmas examinations in the Normal School. Alluding to the severe thoroughness of examinations there, he remarked, "If a student get 49½ out of 50 he would be plucked." Sitting next the Archdeacon I added in an undertone, "Oh, they slaughter them down there." Alas, the newspaper man was at hand, and my remark made in conversational pleasantry and with no evil intent, was published to the world in a most matter-of-fact style, as a most serious and deliberate utterance, and the Principal of the Normal School takes offence and indicates his work in a letter to the *Witness*, which reappears in the RECORD.

Let me say, first, that both the Archdeacon and myself meant our remarks to be complimentary and in no degree derogatory to the Normal School. We might make the same remarks, say, about the civil service examinations in London, and only mean thereby what would be to their credit. Second, the figurative language in which I meant to be complimentary I wish to retract, if for no other reason than that it causes offence. Third, I need scarcely say that in the Normal School, to which I am very directly related, I have, with educationists generally in this Province, the greatest satisfaction and positive pride. I am satisfied with both the thoroughness and impartiality of its work, and that the victims—no, I mean those who fail, deserve their fate.

WILLIAM I. SHAW.

### VERTICAL HANDWRITING.

[As a subject which is full of interest to many of our teachers at the present moment, the following has been sent to us for insertion in the