

THE MODERN SCHOOL-TEACHER.

From the Home and School Visitor.

'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 and absentees,
 And to what all the absence amounted.

Names and residence wrote in full,
 Over many columns and pages;
 Canadian, Teutonic, African, Celt,
 And averaged all their ages.
 The date of admission to 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 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 had 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 a steeple dome, and as wide
 As a country school foundation.

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

"Just as I thought," said the young M.D.
 "How easy it is to kill '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."

CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE.

OUTLINE OF GREEK HISTORY, by Evelyn
 Abbott, M.A., LL.D., Fellow and Tutor
 of Balliol College, Oxford.

OUTLINE OF ROMAN HISTORY, by P. E.
 Matheson, M.A., Fellow of New College,
 Oxford. Rivingtons, London, 1884.

IN these companion volumes we have the
 fruits of long experience and ripe scholar-
 ship. They are something more than mere
 skeletons, and while not pretending to take
 the place of Manuals of History, they
 serve to present a complete view of history as
 a whole, without which the study cannot be
 of much profit. They serve the further pur-
 pose of giving a connected view of the con-
 stitutional history of Greece and Rome. The
 chapter on this subject in Mr. Abbott's *Out-
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ful notes, render them indispensable to the
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 in the High Schools. The Chronological
 Tables in Schmitz's Manual and Smith's
 Histories are excellent, but they must yield
 the palm to the work of Messrs. Abbott and
 Matheson.

SHAW'S NEW HISTORY OF ENGLISH LIT-
 ERATURE, together with a history of Eng-
 lish Literature in America, by Truman J.
 Backus, LL.D. Sheldon & Co., New
 York and Chicago, 1884. [pp. 480. In-
 troduutory price, \$1.25. Exchange price,
 75c. Sample copy, 50c.]

SHAW'S Outlines of English Literature,
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 known to all teachers of English to need any
 further commendation. It is a book that
 may be depended upon for breadth of treat-
 ment, acuteness of criticism, and sobriety of