

"Dear Mr. Butler," continued Mrs. Knowlton, "was a born teacher; he seemed perfectly happy in the school-room, and so interested in each one's getting on as well as possible."

Alma Corey taught for several seasons after leaving the Academy, then took a course at McGill Normal School, followed later by Calista Burnham; these were the only Stanbridge girls of that time to take the Normal course. Alma soon after married Mr. H. C. Knowlton, of that fine old pioneer family of Brome County. They have three daughters living, "and one dear daughter in Paradise." Alma bewails the loss of a collection of old letters from her school friends, among them such bright and interesting girls as Elizabeth Stinehour, Jane Chandler and Lucy Buck, letters that would have furnished desirable data and sparkling reminiscence. "So much was said about germs and baccilli," says Alma, "that I was persuaded to burn them, and I deeply regret it." So does the present writer; there is a decided lack of such beneficent baccilli.

Virgil Corey, who has never married, lives with his sister. Mervin, a younger brother, was a clever young man. He edited, for some time, "The Stanbridge Record," a bright, but short-lived weekly published by Col. Arthur Gilmour. Mervin, with William O'Dell and Henry Jones, volunteered for the second Riel campaign. Mervin was soon invalided home on account of heart trouble, from which, finally, he died. The others returned at the close of the rebellion. William O'Dell has been previously mentioned as an efficient secretary-treasurer for the Stanbridge School.

The Rykert sisters are mentioned in the preceding chapter as first year pupils, a statement which Mrs. Charlotte Rykert Baker corroborates in characteristic manner:—