

ing the eye our to the west, but he canna do it.

Refreshment, do you ask? The guid wife of the Free Church manse looked after that for us, but there was one dish unexpected.

When mother, best of mothers, made with provident care provision for the meals of her bairns, she occasionally got us a toothsome broth which only expert mothers can make, one part of which made a very clear and lasting impression on my boyish taste. It was a pleasure once again to take whelks

from the restless sea, boil them forthwith, and have them form a part of our ample mid-day meal on the picturesque and beautiful sea shore of Kyntire. Thus sped the day all too soon till, as of yore, the sun, like a red ball, hastened over the splendid Bonachan House, over the isle of Gigha into the calm sea.

That Friday has left with the writer one of the pleasantest of memories.

Live not to day and yesterday, but evermore,
And no one knows when first they came.

CURRENT EVENTS.

THE Province of Ontario prides itself on its school system, with its centralized and highly organized machinery, and its advocates argue that there can be none but blessings come from it. I noticed an interesting commentary on its practical workings in some advertisements for teachers which appeared recently in the *Globe*, the leading journal of the province. One of these advertisements offered an assistant-mastership in a High School to a suitable person willing to teach mathematics and sciences for six hundred dollars a year. To be eligible for such a position a person must have spent some three years at a High School, four years in the University, and one year at the School of Pedagogy. These positions do not include board and lodging—for there are only four boarding schools for boys in the province. Another advertisement was for a female teacher who, besides her duties as a teacher, will be required to light fires and sweep the school, all for the munificent sum of two hundred and sixteen dollars. Another rural School Board desires a teacher to whom it is

willing to pay two hundred dollars, and this in one of the oldest settled counties. These are not exceptional instances; they are culled from an ordinary issue of the *Daily Globe* and indicate fairly the remuneration of teachers in the rural and village schools. The highest salary—that offered to University men—does not exceed the wages of a skilled mechanic, while the lowest does not equal the wages of a farm laborer. The result is that ambitious persons do not enter the teaching profession, or, if they get in, they make haste to leave it at the first opportunity, for more profitable callings. The teaching profession in the villages and rural communities too often is left in the hands of raw boys and girls still in their teens, with the girls in a decided majority. It is not lack of means that prevents the raising of the salaries—it is the lack of inclination, owing partly to the inactivity of the teacher, who neglects to make the school a centre of social activity, who does not interest the parents in the school and let them see the significance of the work he is trying to do. There are too many women in the profession, and