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W. F. MACRAE,
THURSDAY MORNING, Dec. 4, 1884.

The New Readers.
A few more words on the new series of readers:

On one thing the compilers are to be congratulated, viz., their vocabulary. It is no easy matter to choose a vocabulary, qua vocabulary, for the young. The difficulty is multiplex. The ratio between symbolical and presentative terms must be most carefully judged. Concrete nouns must not be too greatly in predominance; yet abstract ones must be graduated in difficulty of meaning with excessive care. To all of which cautions there must be added those of eschewing polysyllables; limiting the number of phonic elements; restricting the phraseology to that of the best usage; choosing always words of common use; poetic meaning, euphonious sound, and authoritative sanction. The following list will show that the majority of these points have been kept fairly in view:

Tangle, dale, deem, sleek, foe, mood, brook (verb), drug, motto, annoy, pomp, hull, wall, cull, sand, dank, soon, point, din, fund, roam, suburn, dunt, vote, tuff, venture, tribe, on, turn, attack, crocodile, vast, calm, translation, plan, refrain, rear, bang, substantial, form, instantaneous, plus, truth.

There are immense possibilities for teaching contained in these single words. Each could be made the text of a wonderful lecture. The true teacher will find here to hand an excellent platform.

On some points criticism must be passed. Why should the story be the story of a dim? It is not a coin in use here; it presents many inaccuracies from the difficulty of mentioning minor details; it contains no scope for graphic, still less for pathetic, description; there is no moral. Again, words and phrases such as:

Forenoon, for fast, would take a cold, got his father to buy, while the stalk keeps on to grow, to get through with it, planted around it, I shall will, care, but, like, anyway, as no means sanctioned by classical syntax, in a school text-book we want no provincialisms.

Another thing we miss is a judicious insertion of simple synonyms. To explain the meanings of words is the grand thing. Synonyms aptly occurring in proximity are a great aid to this. Their absence is very noticeable.

Law Students and Their Grievances.
We print with pleasure W. H.'s letter on this subject, not because we believe all students at law are subjected to all the indignities he narrates, nor because we believe he is altogether a typical case, but because law students have grievances, and those of no trivial kind.

Competition amongst this class, we all know, is keen; but this should affect only the economic relationship between principal and student, not the ethical relationship. There is no doubt whatever, however, that in a large number of cases it does affect this ethical relationship—i. e., the duties which the principal is bound to discharge to his articulated clerk.

There are other grievances besides these, however. If the law society were to expend some of its ample revenue upon other and more profitable objects than handsome buildings, and pictures, it would bear a better name for generosity than it now does.

At Home on the Value of Ritual.
The American asserts that churches without a ritual service are decreasing in influence and membership. The Philadelphia Record denies the fact and points to the progress made on this continent by the Methodist and Baptist churches, and the unimportant subject, and the diametrically opposite views of the two papers are only a sample of the divided views of the public. The truth probably lies between the two: the church entirely devoid of ritual and the church whose only power is ritual will neither of them progress as rapidly as the church which adds to the power of its pulpit a pleasing service.

The progress made by the methodists and baptists to which the Record points, is without doubt due to their availing extremes. It is generally in those churches which either carry ritual or the avoidance of it too far, that rapid and lasting progress is not made, witness on the one hand Plymouth Brethren, on the other the congregation of St. Alban's, Hulse.

The principle limiting the proportion of ritual, viz., that it should be accessory to worship, not in place of it, this principle all will concede. The eccentricities of the salvation army, even the hymns of the brethren and the extempore method of speaking amongst the quakers, are degrees and forms of ritual. The difficulty lies in determining what species of ritual and what proportion of ritual can be called purely accessory, and diversity of opinion on this point is brought about by the fact that different rituals suit different classes. This both the American and the Record fail to recognize.

The Canadian voyageurs appear to be the most romantic part of the Canadian expedition, and so they are getting their full share of attention in the London Illustrated papers.

Perhaps one cause of the vituperation characterizing the political speeches, writings and sayings of our neighbors is to be found in the fact that, after all, the vituperation does not object so very much to the

method of bringing his late publicity. To be abused one must be already somebody. That itself is a pleasing thought; and if the abuse can be parried, no doubt many a politician would put up with it for the sake of the notoriety it brings him. They go on the principle that it is better to be ever so roundly abused than to be taken no notice of.

Mutual Reserve Fund Life Association.
Editor World: The letter of Mr. R. Wilson Smith, published in your paper this morning, is characteristic of those newspaper proprietors who sell themselves, body and bones, to the insurance monopolists.

I will by no means say that it is impossible for them to tell the truth, but it is embarrassing and difficult. I referred, for instance, in a recent letter to the well known retraction and apology of "The Spectator" of New York, and which the wretched coward who conducts that insidious journal was obliged to make.

There can be no doubt that when the hero of the "The Spectator" was allowed to escape upon the condition that he should make an abject and ample apology and be crawled in the dust and did so. But the notorious Steve English, the conductor of "The Insurance Times" is still awaiting his trial, and I am much mistaken if he will be so leniently dealt with. With respect to him

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should have all day for his principal, and then have the privilege of studying all night for himself? W. H.

Gloucester and Bright.
From the London Telegraph.

Lord Macaulay's speeches were all carefully prepared spoken essays, and John Stuart Mill's parliamentary utterances were deliberately made before delivery. Nevertheless, it is beyond question that both the historian and the logician were better entitled to a hearing than ninety-nine out of every hundred facile orators.

With due submission to the splendid reputation of the giants of the past, there are, be it said, in parliament, in both houses, at the present time, some very great and gifted speakers, and it will probably be universally admitted that the best models of principles or politics, Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Bright are the greatest of them. Both Lord Salisbury has the command of a fine voice and an incisive style; but Mr. Gladstone possesses the power, beyond any peer or commoner in parliament, of making a master of our English tongue.

Mr. Bright has no equal. All his great effects are produced by the use of means and by the use of the best means. He, above all men in public life, succeeds in making his meaning clear. To that end he employs the simplest language, the plainest words, and the plainest sentences. He is a master of the art of making his meaning clear. To that end he employs the simplest language, the plainest words, and the plainest sentences.

It happens that Lord Danvers's advice to his countrymen to "be good" is a capital illustration of the art of making his meaning clear. It is therefore of the first importance that the mob of gentlemen who speak with such a loud and empty voice upon the best models of principles or politics, Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Bright are the greatest of them. Both Lord Salisbury has the command of a fine voice and an incisive style; but Mr. Gladstone possesses the power, beyond any peer or commoner in parliament, of making a master of our English tongue.

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at prices in the leading stocks to-day were:

Canadian Pacific	92	92	92	92
Canada Southern	108	108	108	107 1/2
Lewistown & Lackawanna	43	43	43	43 1/2
Central	26	27	27	26 1/2
Albany & Nashville	67 1/2	67 1/2	67 1/2	66 1/2
Shore	18	18	18	18
Western Pacific	41 1/2	42	41 1/2	40 1/2
do preferred	91 1/2	88 1/2	89	88 1/2
St. Paul	53 1/2	54	54 1/2	53 1/2
St. Paul	80 1/2	80 1/2	81	80 1/2
Western Pacific	50 1/2	50	50 1/2	49 1/2
Western Union	92 1/2	93	93	92 1/2

Produce Markets.