

A BUSINESS LESSON For Young Women.

It would be well if all our young readers especially those who live in large cities, would bear in mind the moral that is attached to the following incident which is related by an exchange, and they always should remember what is worth doing at all is worth doing well.

"Step this way a moment, if you please, Miss Chadbourne."

Mr. Vaughn had opened the letter-book, and was looking at it with a puzzled air. He spoke quietly, but his tone caused the young stenographer to start from her chair and approach him with trepidation.

"What do you call that figure, a three or a five?" he asked.

As she caught sight of the blurred press copy of the letter she had taken from dictation and sent to Marshall & Hobbs the evening before, she flushed guiltily, and with a premonition of approaching trouble. Mr. Vaughn's lean forefinger was pointing to the fourth item in a long column of figures, quotations of prices furnished to one of the firm's best customers, and Mildred Chadbourne suspected that the transaction involved was one of unusual importance.

To hide her confusion she bent low over the page and anxiously scrutinized the indistinct copy; but to do her best, she could not decide whether that fourth item was thirteen or fifteen.

Late on the previous afternoon Mr. Vaughn had dictated this letter to her, slowly and with extraordinary pains, charging her to use all possible care in getting the figures down correctly. He had seemed to her quite unnecessary deliberate, for she was impatient to go home, that she might finish a gown she was making, and she had planned to leave a few minutes before the customary hour.

When the dictation was completed, he had rushed off to his train, although first charging her to write, copy and post the letter that night without fail, how ardently rebelling, she had rattled the important communication through the writing-machine at railway speed, and then, as the office boy was invisible, she had undertaken to copy it herself.

It requires care to copy a letter as it should be copied. If the tissue leaf upon which it is to be impressed be wet enough, the result will be a faint copy; if too wet, a blurred one, and in that case the original sheet will sometimes be so badly defaced by the washing of the ink as to be almost illegible.

Mildred had rushed the letter through the copying-press with quite as much haste as she had put into the typewriting of it. She had passed a dripping brush over the leaf, and then had neglected to absorb with a blotting pad the superfluous moisture. In consequence, the copy had turned out a slovenly one, and the original had been seriously defaced.

She knew then as well as she knew afterward that haste had made waste and that her plain duty would have been to do the work over again from beginning to end; but the letter was a long one, six o'clock was drawing near, and just then the completion of her new party gown was of more importance to her than the business concerns of Theophilus Vaughn & Co.

Moreover, if she were to send the letter off as it was, probably she would never hear from it again; as for the copy that might be a matter of little importance. Not half the copies in the letter-book were ever referred to. They were put there because it was a business custom to preserve them, but they seldom proved to be of vital consequence—that she had discovered in her experience thus far.

So she had crowded the "water-logged" sheet hastily out of sight in an envelope, and sent it away. Now, twenty-four hours later, it had occurred to Mr. Vaughn to glance over the copy and a time of reckoning had come.

"I can't make it out, sir," she said desperately, after keeping silence as long as she dared. "I can't tell whether it is a five or a three. I will look at my notes and see what it ought to be."

"I know perfectly well what it ought to be," he commented, dryly. "It ought to be a five. What I am anxious to learn is what it is."

"I have it a five here, sir," said the girl, who had been consulting her shorthand notes.

"The point is did you get it down a five here?" her employer returned. Mildred's spirits sank, and she dared not meet Mr. Vaughn's gaze, but stood before him hot, silent and thoroughly uncomfortable.

"These quotations," he proceeded, indicating the column of figures, "were furnished to Marshall & Hobbs at their request, to enable them to submit bid for large contract—an unau-

ally large one, I infer—which they are hoping to secure shortly. They asked bed-rock figures, and I gave them our very lowest. Now those castings there, which I intended to quote at fifteen cents, they are going to want a great many of—thousands in fact,—and at fifteen cents we should make one cent profit, while at thirteen we should sustain a corresponding loss. So you see if they have gone ahead and put in their bid on a basis of thirteen cents, we naturally shall have to stand back of our figures, and—well," he concluded, significantly, "it will make a difference to us."

"Yes, sir," assented the girl, in faint tones.

"That's a wretchedly bad copy, Miss Chadbourne," he remarked, after a few seconds of uncomfortable silence—uncomfortable for her, at least. "You must speak to George. He is getting to be unpardonably careless. He's thinking too much about his own concerns, I fear."

"Yes, sir," stammered Mildred, reddening furiously. "I will—I mean Mr. Vaughn, to tell the truth, George didn't take the copy. He happened not to be about, and so I took it."

"Indeed!" said her employer, with an accent that caused her to flush still more; but to her relief, he made no further comments. "Well," he concluded, shutting up the letter-book, "I don't see what we can do about it now. Thirteen is held to be an unlucky number, and it would be particularly so here. Let us hope this nondescript blotch stands for a five."

Mildred went home that night almost wishing that she had never been born. Nearly a month now she had been with Theophilus Vaughn & Co.—it was her first situation—and she had begun to flatter herself, with reason, that she was giving satisfaction. At the end of her first week Mr. Vaughn had gone so far as to tell her so.

"I rather think you will suit us," he said. "You are quick, accurate, and you can spell."

"Thank you, sir; I hope I know something about spelling," was her wondering response.

"The young lady who preceded you knew something about spelling," proceeded Mr. Vaughn, with a queer shrug, "and proved the truth of the familiar assertion that a little knowledge may be a dangerous thing. See here!" and opening the letter-book, he showed her the copy of a letter of about a dozen lines in which he had underscored with a pencil three mis-spelled words, and words not usually considered "hard" ones either.

"I shouldn't want to employ a stenographer who was obliged to consult the dictionary continually," he went on, "but one who didn't know enough to look it in when she ought I wouldn't have at any price. A girl who can't spell, or who can't learn to spell, misses her vocation when she starts out to become a stenographer."

"You would perhaps be surprised at the number of such cases there are, Miss Chadbourne," he proceeded. "Girls who have had only a common school education, and have neglected their opportunities at that, whose knowledge of spelling and grammar is woefully deficient, and who couldn't write a presentable letter to one of their own friends to save their lives, and yet who expect to do the correspondence in a business counting room! A stenographer who has to be watched continually, lest she send out something like this thing here— a letter that any reputable house would blush for,—such a stenographer—well, I have no use for her."

Now, as she took her homeward way, Mildred reflected upon these words of her employer, realizing, with shame and contrition, that she had been guilty of sending out one of Theophilus Vaughn & Co.'s letters.

If there is a history of weak lungs in your family, take Scott's Emulsion.

It nourishes and invigorates.

It enables you to resist the disease. Even if your lungs are already affected, and if besides the cough you have fever and emaciation, there is still a strong probability of a cure.

The oil in the Emulsion feeds; the hypophosphites give power to the nerves; and the glycerine soothes and heals.

50c. and \$1.00, all druggists. SCOTT & BOWNE, Chemists, Toronto.

heads a "thing for which any reputable house would blush." There were no misspelled words there, the grammar was faultless, the sentences properly constructed, and every figure in it, with the possible exception of the blurred one, had been set down correctly; yet to send off such a letter—a letter that looked as if it had been left lying out overnight in the rain—was a discourtesy toward the firm's correspondents that barely fell short of an insult.

That evening occurred the party to which for weeks she had been looking forward with the liveliest anticipations of pleasure; but her regret over that unfortunate letter, joined to her anxiety concerning her future standing with Vaughn & Co., had brought on a headache which of itself would have spoiled her enjoyment effectually. So after a dismal attempt to take part in the gaiety, she left early, and came home ready to cry with disappointment.

The next day chanced to be a holiday, and the one following it was Sunday. Forty-eight hours of greater apparent length Mildred was sure she never had passed. On Monday she probably would learn whether or not Vaughn & Co. were to lose several hundred dollars by her blunder—if blunder it was; meanwhile the suspense she was being kept in seemed intolerable.

If the firm were called upon to bear the loss, would Mr. Vaughn visit the consequences, so far as he could, upon her head, and decide that he had no further use for so unfaithful a stenographer? What ever might be the event, she was forced to admit that she deserved to lose her situation, that she no longer merited his confidence; and thus, with unhappy doubts and self-questionings, the two intervening days dragged slowly by.

Earlier than was her custom on Monday morning Mildred reached the office. As she was removing her coat of door garments, her glance fell involuntarily on the pile of mail matter that George had brought from the post-office, and laid ready for Mr. Vaughn upon his desk. It was a large pile, so large that the upper part of it had slid backward so as to reveal the edges of some of the lower envelopes.

She caught sight of a printed name in the right-hand corner of one of them: "Marshall & Hobbs." She would have given a week's salary to open the letter, but taking such a liberty was out of the question.

Mr. Vaughn arrived late, and in so leisurely a manner did he open and read the letters that Mildred began to wish she had taken occasion to place that from Marshall & Hobbs on top of the heap, and thus saved herself many long minutes of torturing suspense. Finally, when he reached it in due course, he showed the most exasperating calmness in making acquaintance with its contents—quite as if the losing of several thousand dollars were a matter of no importance whatever.

While pretending to be busy herself, Mildred watched him with tremulous anxiety. His face, however, was utterly inscrutable, and after having held the open sheet in his fingers for full five minutes,—or so it seemed to her,—he turned and extended it toward her, remarking briefly, "This may interest you."

She seized the letter in what came near to being a frantic clutch, and resealing herself, for she felt too weak to stand, she began to read:—

"Your valued favor of the 20th has been received and contents noted. The letter has been somewhat defaced in the copying,—probably from a too free use of water by your office boy,—but we think we have been able to make out of all it except the estimate given for the No. 1009 castings. We are in doubt whether the figures intended are 13 or 15. Please telegraph the correct amount on receipt of this, as we cannot delay much longer in submitting our bid."

"The moral of that seems to be," said Mr. Vaughn, quizzically, "if you must make a mistake, make such a very bad one that nobody can decide what on earth you're driving at. Now, Miss Chadbourne, I wish you would go out and telegraph Marshall & Hobbs that the proper figure is fifteen. Prepay the charges, and have the message repeated, so as to make sure it is right. Do you understand, and can I trust you to do that?"

"Yes, sir," the girl answered, blushing at what she fancied to be a covert sarcasm. "And Mr. Vaughn," she thought it best to add, "I want to tell you how sorry I am for my carelessness in copying that letter. You may be sure such a thing will not occur again."

"I trust not, indeed," was all the response he made, and she left the office in some uncertainty as to how her apology had been taken; but as he did not refer to the matter afterward, she was finally encouraged to hope he had not lost faith in her entirely.

She never really knew whether that important figure in the hurriedly

written letter was a three or a five, but she never allowed herself to be troubled with any painful doubts as to her figures again; one escape from disaster was enough.

Thereafter she made sure to have every letter sent out exactly right in all particulars before it left her hands, and she was never again known to neglect her employer's interests for her own pleasure or convenience, as she clearly recognized she had been guilty of doing in the case of her "unprofitable hurry."

Dr. Adams' Toothache Gum is sold by all druggists; 10 cts a bottle.

PEASANT PROPRIETORS.

In France there are five million peasant owners of the soil, and the majority of them till the little acre and the little acre and a half farms they own, and thrive. In a lecture delivered some time ago, Mr. Michael Fox, secretary of the New York branch of the Irish National Federation of America showed that there were in Ireland in 1841, no fewer than 135,314 holdings, no one of which exceeded an acre in extent. In 1880 the number of such holdings had dwindled to 50,613. Of holdings larger than one acre, but not exceeding five acres, there were in 1841 more than 310,000; 39 years later there were but 61,292. The farms comprehending over five acres but not more than fifteen acres apiece numbered 252,799 in 1841, and 161,335 in 1880. Here we have in less than forty years a total decrease of about 122,000 in the number of holdings not exceeding fifteen acres. If we bear in mind the average size of Irish families, we shall appreciate how vast was the population evicted from its homes after the famine and forced to choose between emigration and reduction to the grade of agricultural laborers.

You know what that tired feeling is and you may know what will cure it by giving Hood's Sarsaparilla—a fair trial.

THE DIVORCE EVIL.

Through the efforts of Bishop Shanley the divorce evil has been lessened in Dakota. Heretofore it required but ninety days residence to secure a decree nullifying the nuptial bond. It

was the Mecca toward which all who desired separation without cause wended their way. Bishop Shanley impressed upon the legislature the necessity of changing the law, and now it requires a year's residence before a divorce will be granted.—Catholic Journal.

COST OF A WAR.

The actual expenditures of the late war have been \$105,000,000, with a possibility of reaching \$150,000,00 before all the obligations will have been liquidated. Our net gains have not yet been totted up in the general profit and loss account. It will take a good while to make the trial balance.—Home Journal and News.

The Profession of Teaching

The mission of the school teacher is or rather should be the noblest of all professions. In Europe teaching is looked upon as a profession, and teachers serve a regular apprenticeship to it; while in the United States, and notably in our large cities, young girls are appointed whose only recommendation is that they have a general and very superficial knowledge of the elementary branches and a smattering of the "ologies." They know less than nothing of the human mind, for the little they do know they have learned from men as ignorant as themselves. If it be necessary for the mechanic to know something of the nature of the material on which he works, how much more necessary is it for the teacher to know the true nature of the mind and the laws of thought? And yet how few of the public school teachers know anything about the laws of thought and reasoning.—The Sunday Democrat.

ALMOST IN DESPAIR.

"My wife suffered with pain and distress from an affection of the throat caused by impure blood. She was almost in despair of ever obtaining a cure, but finally procured a bottle of Hood's Sarsaparilla, and after taking six bottles of this medicine she was completely cured." John Weckmar, Galt, Ontario.

That distress after eating is prevented by one or two of Hood's Pills. They don't gripe.

No man is of use to the public until he is able to accept newspaper attacks with indifference.

SURPRISE SOAP

A pure hard Soap which has peculiar qualities for Laundry Uses.
5 cents a cake.

Surgeon Dentists.

DR. J. G. A. GENDREAU,
SURGEON-DENTIST,
No. 22, ST. LAWRENCE STREET.
MONTREAL.

Bell Tel., Main, 2818. Office Hours, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

DR. BROUSSEAU, I.D.S.,
SURGICAL DENTIST,
No. 7 St. Lawrence St.,
MONTREAL.
Telephone, 6201.

Your impression in the morning. Teeth in the afternoon. Electric full gum sets. Rose Pearl (desh colored). Weighted lower set for shallow jaws. Upper sets for wasted faces. Gold crown plate and bridge work, put in extracting without charge if sets are inserted (teeth filed; teeth repaired in 50 minutes; sets in three hours if required).

Toilet Articles.

SPECIALTIES OF GRAY'S PHARMACY.
FOR THE HAIR: CASTOR FLUID, 25 cents
FOR THE TEETH: SAPONACEOUS DENTIFRICE, 25 cents
FOR THE SKIN: WHITE ROSK LAMOLIN CREAM, 25 cents

HENRY R. GRAY,
Pharmaceutical Chemist,
122 St. Lawrence Main Street.
N.B.—Physicians' Prescriptions prepared with care and promptly forwarded to all parts of the city.

DR. FRS. DE SALES PREVOST,
SPECIALIST.
Diseases of the Eyes, Ears and Nose.
Consultations—9.30 a.m. to 12 p.m.; 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. at 2489 Notre Dame street.
1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at 402 Sherbrooke street.

SCHOOL BOOKS.

During the coming School Term of 1898-99 we respectfully solicit the favor of your orders for the supplying of Catholic Educational and other Text Books, both in English and French; also, School Stationery and School requisites.

SADLER'S DOMINION SERIES.

Sadler's Dominion Reading Charts, 26 Reading Charts and one Chart of Colours mounted on 14 boards, size 23 1/2 x 32 1/2 inches.

Sadler's Dominion Speller, complete.

Sadler's Dominion First Reader, Part I.

Sadler's Dominion Second Reader, Part I.

Sadler's Dominion Third Reader.

Sadler's Dominion Fourth Reader.

Sadler's Outlines of Canadian History.

Sadler's Outlines of English History.

Sadler's School History of England, with 500 colored maps.

Sadler's Ancient and Modern History, with 111 illustrations and 25 colored maps.

Sadler's Edition of Butler's Catechism.

Sadler's Child's Catechism of Sacred History, Old Testament Part I.

Sadler's Child's Catechism of Sacred History, New Testament Part I.

Sadler's Catechism of Sacred History, large edition.

Sadler's Bible History (Schooner) Illustrated.

Sadler's Elementary Grammar, Blackboard Exercises.

Sadler's Edition of Grammaire Elementaire par R. Robert.

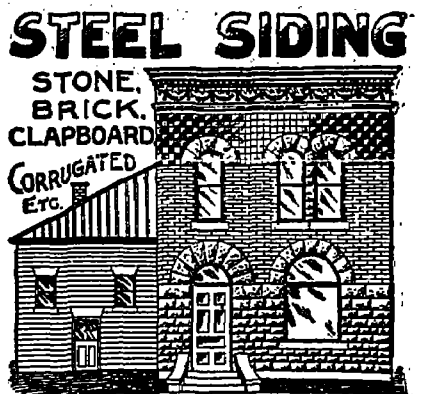
Sadler's Edition of Nugent's French and English and English and French Dictionary, with pronunciation.

Sadler's (P. D. & S.) Copy Books, A and B, with tracing.

D. & J. SADLER & CO.,
Catholic Educational Publishers and Stationers,
1689 Notre Dame Street, Montreal, Que.
123 Church Street, Toronto, Ont.

Business Men.

The shrewd merchant knows where to place his advertisements. Why not try our columns. Our rates are reasonable. Our paper reaches near and far in every parish in the City and Province in Canada. Give our columns a trial. Send for rates to our office, "THE TRUE WITNESS & P. CO." Limited
253 St. James Street, Montreal.



For Stores, Houses, Halls, Barns, Sheds, Churches. Entirely water, wind, storm and fire proof. Will last years and always look well. Cheaper than matched lumber. Shipped from factory all ready to apply. Sold by leading dealers, or write direct stating requirements. Pedlar Metal Roofing Co. OSHAWA, CANADA.

Society Meetings.

LADIES' AUXILIARY

To the Ancient Order of Hibernians, Division No. 1.

Meets in St. Patrick's Hall, 92 St. Alexander street, on the first Sunday at 4 p.m. and third Tuesday at 8 p.m. of each month. President, Sarah Allen; Vice-President, Bridget Harvey; Financial Secretary, Mary McMahon; Treasurer, Mary O'Brien; Recording Secretary, Beatrice Stanley, 918 Berri street. Application forms can be had from members, or at the hall before meetings.

Young Men's Societies.

Young Irishmen's L. & B. Association.

Organized April 1874. Incorporated Dec. 1875. Regular monthly meeting held in the hall, 18 Duvergne street, first Wednesday of every month at 8 o'clock, p.m. Committee of Management meets every second and fourth Wednesday of each month. President, P. J. ALLEN; Vice-President, M. J. POWELL; Recording Secretary, J. J. LEAGUE; W. J. HIMPBY, D. HALLER, JAS. McMAHON.

St. Ann's Young Men's Society.

Organized 1885.

Meets in its hall, 157 Ottawa Street, on the first Sunday of each month at 2:30 p.m. Spiritual Advisor, REV. F. J. O'NEILL, C.S.B.; President, JOHN WHITTY; Secretary, J. J. CORCORAN; Delegates to St. Patrick's League: J. Whitty, D. J. O'NEILL and M. CASEY.

Ancient Order of Hibernians.

DIVISION NO. 2.

Meets in lower vestry of St. Gabriel New Church, corner Centre and Laprairie streets, on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at 8 p.m. President, ANDREW DUNN; Recording Secretary, T. O'SHEA; N. SMITH, 63 Richmond street, to whom all communications should be addressed. Delegates to St. Patrick's League: A. Dunn, M. Lynch and J. Connaughton.

A.O.H.—Division No. 3.

Meets the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month at Hibernia Hall, No. 202 Notre Dame St. Officers: B. Wall, President; P. Carroll, Vice-President; John Hughes Fin. Secretary; Wm. Rawley, Rec. Secretary; W. P. Stanton, Treas.; Marshal, John Kennedy; T. Ervine, Chairman Standing Committee. Hall is open every evening (except on regular meeting nights) for members of the Order and their friends, where they will find Irish and other leading news in a room on file.

A.O.H.—Division No. 4.

President, H. T. Kearney, No. 32 Dolomieu are Vice President, J. P. O'Hara; Recording Secretary, P. J. Finn, 15 Kent street; Financial Secretary, P. J. Tomlity; Treasurer, John Traynor; Sergeant-at-arms, Mathewas Sentinel; White, Marsh, G. Gibson; Delegates to St. Patrick's League, T. J. Donagan, J. O'Hara, Gibson; Chairman Standing Committee, John Costello, O. H. Davidson No. 4 meets every 2nd and 4th Monday of each month, at 1113 Notre Dame street.

C.M.B.A. of Canada, Branch 26

(ORGANIZED, 13th November, 1883.)

Branch 26 meets at St. Patrick's Hall, 92 St. Alexander Street, on every Monday of each month. The regular meeting of the Branch is held on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month at 8 p.m. Applicants for membership or any other desiderata of information regarding the Branch may communicate with the following officers: D. J. McGillivray, President, 156 Mance street; John J. Kennedy, Treasurer, 92 St. Philip street; Robert W. G. Finlay, Financial Secretary, 28 Brunswick street; P. J. McLaughlin, Recording Secretary, 82a Visitation street.

Catholic Order of Foresters

St. Gabriel's Court, 185.

Meets every alternate Monday, commencing Jan 31, in St. Gabriel's Hall, cor. Centre and Laprairie streets.

M. P. McGOLDRICK, Chief Ranger.

M. J. HEALEY, Rec. Sec'y, 48 Laprairie St.

St. Patrick's Court No. 95, C.O.F.

Meets in St. Ann's Hall, 157 Ottawa street, every first and third Monday at 8 p.m. Chief Ranger, JAMES P. FOSBERG, Recording Secretary ALAN PARKER, 197 Ottawa street.

Catholic Benevolent Legion.

Shanley Council, No. 320, C.B.L.

Meets in St. Ann's Young Men's Hall, 157 Ottawa Street, on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month, at 8 p.m. MR. J. O'SHEA, President; MR. T. W. LESAGE, Secretary, 447 Berri Street.

Total Abstinence Societies.

ST. PATRICK'S T. A. & B. SOCIETY.

Established 1841.

Meets on the second Sunday of every month in St. Patrick's Hall, 92 St. Alexander street, immediately after Mass. Committee of Management meets in same hall the first Tuesday of every month at 8 p.m. REV. A. McALLAN, Rev. President; JOHN WALSH, 1st Vice-President; W. P. DOYLE, Secretary, 24 St. Martin Street. Delegates to St. Patrick's League: Messrs J. Walsh, M. Shanley, J. H. Kelly.

St. Ann's T. A. & B. Society.

Established 1863.

Rev. Director, REV. FATHER FLYNN, Pres. Dir. JOHN KILLFEATHER, Secretary, JAS BRADY, 119 Chateaufort Street.

Meets on the second Sunday of every month in St. Ann's Hall, corner Young and Ottawa streets, at 8:30 p.m. Delegates to St. Patrick's League: Messrs J. Killfeather, T. Rogers and Andrew Oulton.