

lacked, but candidly he admired Voltaire and gave Ingersoll much credit for having said: "I do not know if there be a God, but this I do know, that others do not know."

There was no royal road to learning, and to *know* one must burn the midnight oil, must study and delve and work. His peculiar reverence for books was perhaps his greatest weakness, and an argument had double the force when once it was materialized by printer's ink and bound by a bookbinder.

He was now musing over a mathematical problem whose solution was causing much discussion among mathematicians. Mysterious were the drawings of circles and cones, of triangles and squares, but the problem was still unsolved, and his learned brain contracted, for it was hard to admit himself beaten. He mused and pondered, he drew lines and rubbed them out, he took down books to get ideas and still the unsolved problem was before him.

A fair-haired girl of fourteen summers was romping, with her dog, in the hall outside. Suddenly she rushed with considerable force against the library door, which opened ushering her into the old man's presence. "Why, uncle," she said, still merrily laughing, "how worried you look, whatever is it that is troubling you?"

Relieved to be interrupted from the mental strain, he said: "Only an old, dry problem, child, which I will put away till my brain is clearer."

"Problems are not dry," she said, "it's so jolly when the answer comes. Do you know, uncle, I seldom study my sums at school. I just sit still for a few minutes and it all comes to me. Now tell me about your sum, uncle, and perhaps I can get the answer."

The learned classical face smiled an amused smile as much as to say: "My dear child, you have volumes yet to learn before you even understand the technical names I would use to tell you what this problem is." But, he said, "Come along then and I will show you. I am trying to prove that the distance from A to B is one-half the distance from B to C, having given me the relative areas of this circle and square."