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## Contributions.

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### IN THE MOTHER-LAND.

Agnes Deans Cameron.

The current number of "*The Schoolmistress*," one of the leading English school journals, in its "Wants" column furnishes some interesting copy to us pedagogues of the North-land. Before we pack our "grips" and start off seeking situations in the Old Land, it would be well for us to take a mental inventory of our moral and pedagogical qualifications. Our *age* is one of the first demands. "No one over 40 need apply." What do they do with their "Schoolmistresses" when that fatal milestone is passed? Kill them off? One wonders. In most cases you are required to be a "Churchwoman"—sometimes a "decided Churchwoman" or a "thorough Churchwoman." It sets Canadians, who as a nation acknowledge no established church, wondering again. What is exactly that subtle something which differentiates a "decided Churchwoman" from a "thorough Churchwoman," and bars off one who is simply "a Churchwoman" from either? And who does the classifying?

And how does this strike you?

**HIGHFIELD CHURCH SCHOOL, SOUTHAMPTON.**—After Christmas, Certificated Mistress for large Mixed School. Upper Classes. Churchwoman. Disciplinarian. Drawing. Sol-fa. Cookery a recommendation. Salary £60. Head Master.

A certificate, a Churchwoman, a disciplinarian, drawing, sol-fa, and more than a hint to throw in cooking, and all for \$25 a month! It reminds one of the nursery rhyme:

"In matters of commerce the fault of the Dutch  
Is giving too little and asking too much."

Here is another gem:

**NEWCHURCH-IN-ROSSENDALE N. SCHOOL.**—Infants' Mistress at Christmas. Churchwoman. Communicant. Kindergarten. Clay Modelling. Brushwork. £70. Apply, Rector.

A "church school" in Winestead offers £40 a year and will throw in "coals," if the "Mistress" is able and willing to "play an American organ in church." As an extra inducement it is announced that this school is "not under government." Something about the advertisement reminds one of George Eliot's old lady who "had to get her coals by strategy and pray to heaven for her salad oil."

Another place demands "A good disciplinarian, domestic economy, musical drill, needlework and singing" for \$250 a year, and with delicious coolness adds that "Welsh is indispensable." I don't think that school board needs any one to teach domestic economy for them; they could give the world odds and score every time.