

that attendance not so limited as in those rural seminaries, but to instal those gentleman in these preparatory schools, with high salaries, albeit they might have a deal of lore in store, would be to place them in a position, where they would not have an opportunity to impart that learning, and would at the same time be an act of injustice to the ratepayers in the rural sections.—G.T.

SECOND AND THIRD CLASS CERTIFICATES.— We are constantly reading about the standard of our Public School Teachers and their sluggishness, or laziness in general. Yet, while I admit that perhaps some of them are below par, yet taking them as a whole, there is a very striking contrast between what they are now and what they were a few years ago. And the law, I believe, is just what it should be in limiting teachers to three years teaching, under a third class, because any person can with ordinary application fit himself for a second in that time. But why does the law not allow a teacher to apply for a second before three years in the profession, if he so chooses? This part of the law is rather an encouragement to laziness than otherwise. I am certain there are teachers in Ontario,

who would apply for and receive a second class, before they had been three years in the profession, were they permitted. And why are they not? I know a teacher who applied to the Inspector of his division for permission to apply at the next July examination for a second class. He received for answer, that while he, (the Inspector), liked to see any teacher desirous of improving, yet *it would not be well*, not having been long in the profession. Now, what I want to ask is, Would a second class be burdensome to the bearer, and must he teach three years before he is able to bear the burden of it? If, as is the case, a third class teacher command as high a salary as a second, a teacher will not apply because he will be pecuniarily rewarded, and why then should he not be permitted to apply at least AS SOON as he likes for a higher standing than he now possesses? A teacher having energy enough to thus apply and receive a higher standing, will not likely rest content till he has risen still higher. Hoping that some steps will be taken to gain this object, and hoping to hear others' opinion on this subject, I remain—A READER.

### MISS McCUTCHEON'S TROUBLES IN SCHOOL.

BY QUID RIDES.

It was one of the public schools of the town, and the school marm was drawing out the intellectual capacities of the young like elastic. Geography had been disposed of in its different phases, with nothing very intricate meeting their notice, until they arrived at the causes which led to an eclipse of the sun.

"You understand," said the school marm, endeavoring to explain away the mystery

connected with it, "that the sun becomes dark and obscure."

"So it does," said a red-headed boy in the corner, as he kept gradually closing his eyes, and peering, as if through a pair of shutters, at a boy who sat on the opposite seat.

"This is caused," she continued still further, "by the shadow of the earth falling