

well graded and new matter is so gradually introduced, that the pupil of ordinary ability, with a very little help, will make steady headway in any subject after he has learned to read.

The proper spirit to cultivate in the pupils is that of rejecting help except self-help. The most stinging rebuke I ever heard passed by a pupil on a teacher was as follows: "Our teacher recited that lesson admirably. His grade should be about 98."

The teacher may also help the pupils to organize their knowledge of a subject into a "handle-able shape."

Knowledge thus becomes an instrument that can be used effectively.

De Quincey tells us that the Cambridge Problem was: "Given the Captain's name and the year of our Lord, to determine the Longitude of the ship." Teacher, study this problem. It means more than it says, and it says more than it looks. See its limitations; then make a right application to the work in hand. Poverty of help is not a heavy and grievous burden for the pupil; but too much help renders him poor indeed.—*School Journal*.

THE STORY OF THE HUDSON BAY COMPANY.

THE Hudson Bay Company's agents were not the first hunters and fur-traders in British America, ancient as was their foundation. The French, from the Canadas, preceded them no one knows how many years, though it is said that it was as early as 1627 that Louis XIII. chartered a company of the same sort and for the same aims as the English company. Whatever came of that corporation I do not know, but by the time the Englishmen established themselves on Hudson Bay, individual Frenchmen and half-breeds had penetrated the country still farther west. They were of hardy, adventurous stock, and they loved the free roving life of the trapper and hunter. Fitted out by the merchants of Canada, they would pursue the waterways which there cut up the wilderness in every direction, the canoes laden with goods to tempt the savages, and their guns or traps forming part of their burden. They would be gone the greater part of a year, and always returned with a store of furs to be converted into money, which was, in turn, dissipated in the cities with devil-may-care jollity.

These were the *courriers du bois*, and theirs was the stock from which came the *voyageurs* of the next era, and the half-breeds, who joined the service of the rival fur companies, and who, by-the-by, reddened the history of the North-West territories with the little bloodshed that mars it.

Charles II. of England was made to believe that wonders in the way of discovery and trade would result from a grant of the Hudson Bay territory to certain friends and petitioners. An experimental voyage was made with good results in 1668, and in 1672 the King granted the charter to what he styled "the Governor and Company of Adventurers of England trading into Hudson's Bay, one body corporate and politique, in deed and in name, really and fully forever, for Us, Our heirs, and Successors." It was indeed a royal and a wholesale charter, for the King declared, "We have given, granted and confirmed unto said Governor and Company sole trade and commerce of these Seas, Streights, Bays, Rivers, Lakes, Creeks and Sounds, in whatsoever latitude they shall be, that lie within the