

## HINTS TO TEACHERS.

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These remarks were privately circulated some year or more ago among the teachers of Preparatory classes in Montreal, and were the result of a recent inspection by the Superintendent. Their value gives them a permanent interest, and we are glad to be able to reprint them for the benefit of teachers in the country. They may be interested in knowing that the Preparatory classes in the Elementary Schools in the city are half-day classes. They have been organized as a means of gradually accustoming children to the longer hours of school, and have been found to work very satisfactorily. In November last, the Preparatory classes were attended by 707 pupils. The following are the directions for the management of these Preparatory classes:—

“Hours, 9 a.m. to noon every school day. Thirty minutes a day (at least) to be devoted to reading, writing from dictation, and copying on the slates, 1st Part Book 1 of the Canadian Series. Thirty minutes a day to be devoted to arithmetic, pupils being taught to count, read, write, add, subtract, multiply and divide, provided that no datum nor result shall exceed twenty. The teacher will use as a guide MacVicar's Primary Arithmetic, pp. 5 to 12, 27 to 32, 36, 47 to 50, 65 to 67, 83 to 85. The abacus must be constantly referred to in illustration. The teacher shall tell the assembled class a little story every day, and shall cause it to be repeated, and shall question upon it on the next day; twice a week the story shall be from the Bible, and once a week from English or Canadian History; thirty minutes a day shall be devoted to this exercise. An object lesson, occupying at least fifteen minutes shall be given daily; among other subjects, the following shall be taken at least once a year:—Iron, copper, silver, water, wood, stone, glass, paper, brick, string, pin, needle, knife, fork, saw, hat, shoe, house, door, window, roof, wind. The following common things are to be taught:—Names of days of week, months of year, seasons; cent, five cents, ten cents, twenty-five cents, paper money; ounce, pound; inch, foot, yard; minute, hour, day, week, year; senses; points of compass; by the aid of a small terrestrial globe, the size and shape of the earth, continents and oceans, meaning of sea, island, peninsula, cape, strait, day and night. The Lord's Prayer, the Ten Commandments, the