

dearest, and most sacred ones in life. At the very age when angels would be honored to serve them, that is the time when we put them into the hands of persons who are not prepared by disposition to be teachers, and who are not educated to be teachers, and who are continuously bribed, as it were, by the miserable wages that are given to them, to leave their teaching as soon as they acquire a little experience. It is a shame, a disgrace to the American Christianity.

—The editor of the *School Journal* puts the teacher in a position which no sensible person would care to occupy when he asks: Why is he a teacher? It was observed a good many years ago that certain men became teachers to earn money enough to undertake something else; staying in the school-room only as long as they must, sufficient money being earned they left it only too gladly. Then it was seen that the work done by these persons was not teaching but lesson hearing of a varying quality. So it began to be demanded that the person officiating in the school-room should be better qualified, and normal schools were built, but still it is observed that men and women seek the school-rooms solely for the money to be obtained. There are those who would have no higher motive for the teacher; when it comes to pass that none exists the public school system will fall of its own weight. The motive controls in teaching as in learning; those who learn to get gold medals never reach any great height.

—These wicked processes of an educational system, called examinations, are having their perennial hard time of it during the summer recess, when those who have from inadvertence or carelessness hit their toes against the proverbial stone, take their revenge by reviling the poor stone. One of our most indignant editors in speaking of the time of holding the examinations, pours out his wrath in the following mild terms: Cannot the system of which this country is so justly proud be so altered that the strain and anxiety of school examinations shall not come just as the trying heat of summer begins? There can be no defense of a policy that crowds so many responsibilities and probationary trials into a heated term when the well seasoned adult mind becomes as nearly dormant as considerations for the safety of life and property will permit. It is a serious question whether either teachers or pupils should be subjected to the drudgery of school life when the chief end of present existence with the rest of the world, is to find protecting shade and cooling breezes. It is a sheer cruelty to overtax the mental as well as the physical powers of children