

### School Correspondence.

The following extracts taken from the Federal Magazine of London, may help to inform our teachers of the opportunities to place their pupils in correspondence with schools throughout the Empire. Children are eager to write letters and exchange specimens and photographs with their fellow-students across the water. The best results in composition, are thus attained; the children will be eager to know their own surroundings thoroughly and pleasantly in order to convey their impressions in writing. It is also an agreeable incentive to geography and nature study, adds to the pupils' general knowledge, and gives a keener zeal in their work and outlook on the world. The extracts above referred to are as follows:

Thirty schools are being affiliated this month under the Education Department of Hertfordshire to schools in different parts of the Empire. By far the greater number of these schools desire to correspond with Canada. The reason being that many old scholars have lately emigrated there. One school particularly asks for places where there are paper or wood-pulp mills, and it was interesting to see that the names were known of many of the towns in Canada, where this industry is being carried on.

We have received a number of letters lately showing appreciation of school co-operation. One of the managers of the Thornbury School, Herefordshire, writes: "The correspondence with the Public School, Nova Scotia, is of intense interest to these children, and also to the teachers, who write very frequently to each other, discussing their work, different methods of teaching, and so on. The children have been exchanging botanical specimens, birds' eggs, and photos of the neighbourhood. The Canadian children enter into it all capitally, and appear to enjoy the friendship as keenly as ours do."

The following are from different head teachers:

"I shall be glad to receive another address for interchange with a Canadian school. As soon as possible, please, as the children are quite enthusiastic."

"We should be pleased if you would put us in communication with a Canadian school for this year. Our correspondence with New Zealand friends is most interesting and pleasant."

For the information of teachers, directions under the heading of "Correspondence Comrades' Branch" will be found on another page.

An important thing to teach in the composition class is to use the shortest words possible. The tendency of youth, especially the high school or college student, is to use long words. Let the strength and beauty of the small Saxon word be pointed out and illustrated by every teacher of language.  
—*Western School Journal.*

### The Relation of Teacher and Pupil.

The relation between teacher and pupil in some cases ends with the "close of school." In many cases, let us hope, it is the beginning of a friendship which lasts through life. In the formative stage of the life of a boy or girl there is need of the wise and sympathetic teacher, the one who can enter into the hopes and aspirations of the pupil, and by judicious direction, point out the best course. This is not always done by "giving advice." The teacher who gains the confidence of pupils, who enters into their joys and sorrows, their sports and pastimes; who realizes what it is to be a boy, and who preserves a sunny recollection of his own boyhood, can bind with gentle influence his pupils to him, and affect their whole future life.

The following letter from a lad in his seventeenth year, has been sent to us by Principal A. O. Macrae, of the Western Canada College, Calgary. It is worth reading, if only to show how a healthy boy looks on life and the possibilities which life has in store for him under wise guidance.

\*\*\* "What I would very much like to do would be to travel round the world, and realize the wonderful stories of the great earth. But then they say, "A Rolling Stone Gathers No Moss." I think when people make allusion to this proverb, they mean you will earn no money; they judge a person by the amount of money he or she has. If they would try to live honest lives, I think this proverb would apply. In regard to what line in life I would like to follow, I can hardly say, but I have long wanted to take a course in civil engineering. Do you think I am capable of taking this up? If I accomplish nothing in way of education, I think I would feel gratified if I came out of college and could say: "Well, what I could not master in the way of bad habits before I came here, I can master now." Don't you think that is a great accomplishment in itself?

I will close with best wishes.

W McCARDELL, JR.

Bankhead, August, 1908.

Much keeping in after school may be avoided if teachers will establish the rule that failures in written work should be made up during the fifteen minutes before the opening of school. Tell the pupils to come in as soon as the doors are open, and have the work all ready on their desks for them to begin upon as soon as they enter. They are fresher and so is the teacher less fatigued than after school.