

She made two or three attempts to reach the schoolhouse but could not. Should she forfeit wages for time thus lost?"

—In one of your recent numbers a puzzled teacher asked you to give a good answer to the question, "Why invert the divisor when it is a fraction?" to which you gave two or three answers.

Permit me to submit another.—"Simply for convenience."

Thus $6 \div 3.4 = ?$ Since the divisor has a name, fourths, the dividend must have the same name, as in addition, and subtraction, or a common denominator.

Hence, $6 \div 3.4 = 24.4 \div 3.4 = 24.3 = 8.$

But for convenience $6 \div 3.4 = 6 \times 4.3 = 24.3 = 8.$

Hackensack, N.J.

A. A. B.

—How am I to cure the bad grammar in my school? The grammarian's false syntax is often a thoroughly artificial product, made up to work with the rule which he wishes the pupil to apply. His sentences commonly belong to two widely different classes. Either they are fashioned for the purpose of illustrating some far-fetched rule, or some hair-splitting distinction as to the use of words, and consequently are totally removed from the pupils' needs or demands; or else, they contain forms of speech so palpably wrong that the pupils would perhaps never have dreamed of them had the book not suggested them. The very sight of the incorrect sentence is pernicious, since it may engrave upon their minds errors otherwise unknown. There is a way in which we may do this work and avoid the fatal effects of the text-book sentences. Select three pupils to-day and tell them to make a list of all the incorrect sentences which they hear from that time until the beginning of school to-morrow morning. They are to be alert in the school-room, the playground, on the street and at home. They are not to report the names of the persons detected in murdering the American language. To-morrow take up these sentences one by one, reading them to the class for correction. Do not write them upon the board. Use your judgment in omitting any sentences not wisely reported, or not well adapted to the exercise. In this way you may get at the actual speech of the people with whom your pupils come in contact and by whom they are affected.—*Enquirer*.

Books Received and Reviewed.

[All Exchanges and Books for Review should be sent direct to Dr. J. M. Harper, Box 305, Quebec, P.Q.]

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