

their only opportunity during the year, to express in very practical terms their disapproval of his conduct by picking him out during the entire fight as their sole object of attack.

It was impossible for a boy thus set upon by a pack of blood-thirsty young savages to escape without the most painful, if not serious, injury to his face, his eyes in particular.

Indeed, I remember one fight, especially, when the head of the school was terribly hurt, having been attacked by at least sixty boys; he presented a pitiable spectacle, indeed, after the fray was over! That he bore it nobly was admitted by all, even by his most violent attackers, who, no doubt, felt some pang of remorse for the brutal part they played on that day.

The origin of "Lemon Peel Fight" I never knew, nor do I think that any one did really know. The following suggestion, which I venture to reprint from the *Carthusian*, was offered by a very small boy:—

In the Carthusian monastery of old,
The bell for the midday meal had toll'd,
And the monks to their dinner eagerly past
For the morrow began the Lenten fast;

And with the prospect of forty days' fish
They ate their dinner with extra relish.

At the head of the table the abbot sat
In a chair which hardly allowed for his fat;
And the holy brethren on either side
Talked and chatted on benches wide,
Carthusian silence forgetting, I fear,
But when did silence attend good cheer!

The meat is o'er and the dish of the day—
The pancakes—appeared in goodly array.
But 'twas at this point that something occurred
Which their further discussion a little deterred;
For Brother Adolphus, usually cool,
Waxing eloquent, termed Brother Peter a fool.

Brother Peter was not the man to brook
Such an insult; into his hand he took
A lemon, that lay hard by his plate;
Fast flew the messenger of fate—
And to join in the fray, from each side of the board
The monks arose with one accord.

The shower of lemons filled the air;
Nor *inky* missiles I ween were there;
The friar off his legs is thrown;
The weaker brethren all lie prone;
Thus they fought on, nor did their zeal expire
Till sheer exhaustion quenched their furious ire.

(To be continued.)

THE POSITION AND PROSPECTS OF TEACHERS.

BY MACHAON.

ALTHOUGH I am not engaged in the profession of teaching, yet I take a great interest in the welfare of teachers and in educational matters generally, having successively held the office of Grammar School and High School Trustee for about sixteen years continuously. Knowing how much the country owes to teachers and how inadequately their services are often appreciated, I have longed to see their status improved and their remuneration increased. It appears

to me that the facilities for getting into the profession are too great, the preliminary education being very cheaply obtained. The natural consequence is that there are large numbers possessing certificates but unable to procure employment, and when a vacancy occurs the crowd of applicants is so great that sordid and ignorant trustees take advantage of the superabundant supply. Many of the boards advertise for teachers, requiring candidates to state salary. This