

DRAWING FROM 3.30 TO 5.

1. While the pupils are engaged with their English as above, the teacher may copy on the blackboard the figure selected from page 2 of the Dominion Freehand Drawing Course No. 4, which the pupils will afterwards sketch on drawing paper.

2. In addition to the above the pupil is to sketch the design of a *cylinder*, a *pyramid*, a *cone* and a *vase*. (No marks will be given to a figure which is not in pencil and which is not at least three inches in one of its dimensions.)

3. Make a design from the model of a dictionary or any other large volume lying upon the teacher's desk or table; the table to be drawn as well as the book.

Correspondence, etc.

To the Editor of the Witness.

SIR,—As there is to be a convention of teachers in Montreal at an early date, the present would seem to be an opportune time in which to direct attention to some unsatisfactory results of the prevailing methods of teaching. The situation is serious if existing methods of school tuition are so defective that a large percentage of the holders of Model School diplomas do not know how to write a business letter properly, yet the facts below stated would indicate that such an unfavorable state of affairs actually exists.

There are now before me thirty letters of application for the position of head teacher of a model school, a position which became vacant and had to be filled during the past summer. With two exceptions, the writers of these letters declare themselves to be holders of model school or academy diplomas, and two of them affix the letters 'B.A.' to their signatures. All these letters must be supposed to have been written with deliberation and in full expectation of their being closely scrutinized. A glance at these letters, however, discloses the following facts:

Nineteen of them make no mention of the official position of the person to whom they are addressed, but are simply directed to a gentleman by name as if they were private missives.

Three of them contain such crude and flippant abbreviations as 'ad.' and 'adv.' for 'advertisement,' 'elem.' for 'elementary' and 'rec'd' for 'received,' faults which, if pardonable at any place, are certainly not to be excused in a formal application to a public body.

Four of them disclose a slovenly habit of entirely omitting the subject of a sentence, as witness this sentence from the letter of one who says that he holds an Academy diploma: 'As to personal appearance, am fair complexioned, six feet one-inch in height (*sic*), straight and weigh 175 to 180 lbs.'

Perhaps a more serious kind of fault is one consisting in a looseness of expression evidenced in such sentences as these: 'Seeing your advertisement in Saturday's *Witness* for a teacher for the—— Model School, I send in an application for the same.'

'I am also enclosing a copy of my religious instructor's reference, pastor of which church (Dominion sq. Methodist) I have attended for the past three years.'