

will be taken as a specimen of Penmanship. Value of Writing, 50 marks.

I. Combine the following statements into a simple sentence properly constructed :—

William Ewart Gladstone is Premier of England. He is the present Premier of England. He has gained a reputation for his eloquence. He has gained a reputation for his wonderful industry and vigour. He has gained a reputation for his earnest desire to do right. He has gained a world-wide reputation.

II. Name, in a properly constructed simple sentence, six things you can see in the room in which you are being examined.

III. Write sentences each containing one of the following words and phrases :—at length, in the direction of, without regarding the missiles, disciples, oar, orc, o'er, lie, lye, silly, Scilly, canvas, canvass, waist, waste.

IV. To these questions write sentence-answers :—

(i.) When, where, and between what nations was the battle of Queenston Heights fought ?

(ii.) What makes the Newfoundland coast dangerous to sailors ?

(iii.) What are the names of six of the most prominent politicians of Canada ?

V. (i.) Write a simple sentence in which the subject is modified by an adjective, and by a noun in apposition.

(ii.) Write a simple sentence in which the subject is modified by an adjective phrase, and the predicate verb completed by an object and modified by an adverbial phrase.

MY PART IN A SECOND-BOOK GRAMMAR TALK.

How many of you, boys and girls, would go home this afternoon pleased, if I were to tell you that you must all buy books, and begin to learn grammar on Monday morning ?

Not one of you ! Jane, let me ask you, why ?

You think you're not old enough. Is that your reason, Peter ?

You think it's too hard. Now, how many of you agree with Jane and Peter ? Every one of you, eh ?

Well, I am quite sure you are all wrong. You are all old enough to learn grammar, and grammar is not very hard to learn. I should be very stupid if I were to ask you to learn grammar from grammar books, but we need no books.

Annie, how old do you think boys and girls should be before they begin to learn grammar ? Twelve, you say. And you ? You think about fourteen. Then, I suppose you would all look upon a child as being very clever, who should begin to learn grammar when three years old.

You would ; I thought so.

You must think then that I was a remarkably bright child, for I began to learn grammar before I was three months old !

You all seem to be surprised ; but there was nothing very strange about this, for every one of you began about the same age.

Before we could even speak, we knew the names of perhaps forty or fifty things, and we could tell by the tone of father's or mother's voice whether we were doing right or wrong. These were our first lessons in grammar.

Long before we came to school we had learned more grammar than any book about grammar contains.

But since coming to school, how many of you have been taking lessons in grammar ?

What ! Not one ? Think again.

Well, Harry ?

Learning to read, you say, was learning grammar. You are right. Every word you have been taught to pronounce ; every word you have learned to spell ; everything you have been told about the use of capitals, commas, full stops, and apostrophes, have been just so many lessons in grammar, because grammar means knowing how to speak and to write in a proper way.

After this, therefore, when you get into a higher class, all that you will be asked to do is to go a little farther along the road you have already been travelling for some years.

You will learn the names of different kinds of words, and sentences, and you will be taught *why* it is right to speak one way, and wrong to speak another.

Do you think this would be too hard ? No, I am sure you don't ; and yet a great many boys and girls find "book grammar" very hard. How can this be ? You don't know ! Well, I'll tell you what I think is the reason, and then this lesson will be over.

Some scholars don't like to learn grammar because they don't understand the use of it. You will all love grammar, — perhaps.