

would be seen galloping away on hearing our approach. The only sounds to be heard would be the harsh 'me-ouw' of the cat-bird or perhaps the soft trilling of the hermit thrush.

"At length we arrived at the clearing in the centre of which the old log school stood. It was a long, low building, chinked with moss and then plastered with clay, but to me that day it appeared an imposing structure. As we entered, everything seemed strange to me. There were two rows of rough board benches running parallel with the walls. Desks were attached to the walls about four feet from the floor, made of rough planks resting on pins driven into holes in the log. There was another row of benches on either side. The ones nearer the wall were used by the older pupils, the outside ones for the younger boys and girls. A large box stove occupied the centre of the floor, for use during the winter months. The teacher's desk stood at one end of the room. Everything about the room was kept scrupulously clean.

"The teacher, whose name was Murdock McLellan ('Murdie,' we called him), hadn't arrived until after we did. In the meantime my arrival aroused considerable interest among the boys and girls. I was compelled to answer questions which caused me no little embarrassment,—as to what age I was, didn't I know any of their games, and hadn't I learnt anything before I came to school. At length the teacher's arrival put an end to their questions. I stood greatly in awe of him. He was an austere man,—tall and dark featured, and walked with a long rapid stride. He immediately summoned the pupils to their places. The boys occupied benches on one side of the room, the girls on the other. Of the pupils besides my sisters there were the Gunn boys, Angus and Hugh, the Armstrong boys,

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