

I am quite willing to admit that good models should be placed before pupils and their beauties pointed out, and also that to put examples of blunders before pupils who never make them is both unnecessary and unwise. Nevertheless my experience as teacher, observer, and examiner during the last fourteen years has only strengthened my conviction "that, accustomed as the majority of our pupils are from childhood to hearing incorrect forms of speech used by those around them, special and systematic drill is necessary to teach them to notice and guard against these wrong forms ; and that this drill should be oral as well as written, in order that both the ear and the eye may be enlisted in the cause of good English and trained to assist the student."

That the average pupil and, I fear I must add, the average Public school teacher does not express his thoughts either readily or accurately on paper is unquestionable, and the two leading causes are, I believe, the want of sufficient practice in composition, and the fact that good English is not insisted on as it should be in all departments of school work.

Hoping that the book in its improved form may be found helpful by both teachers and students, I send it forth once more on its mission.

GODERICH, December, 1897.

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