

## DICTÉE ANGLAISE.

## THE HONEST SHEPHERD BOY.

I am going to tell you something which happened in England. It is about a shepherd boy, named John Borrow. It was a cold, wintry morning when John left his home, as usual, to tend the sheep of farmer Jones. In one hand John carried his frugal meal, and in the other he held a shepherd's crook. He walked briskly along, whistling as he went, now tossing with his feet the still untrodden snow, and, once in a while, running back to slide where his own feet had made a way. Had you looked into the bright, sunny face of John Borrow, you would not have been surprised at his cheerful gait. His countenance bore the empress of a happy disposition, and a warm, confiding heart.

John had been carefully brought up by his only surviving parent a poor mother; he was her only son, and though she had many little daughters to share her maternal care, still she seemed to think that her first-born, the one who was to be the stay and support of the family, needed the most of her watchful love.

Hitherto John had not disappointed her—he was beloved by all for his open, frank manners, and his generous, honest heart; and he promised fair to become all that his mother had so earnestly prayed he might be.

But while I have been telling you a little about our young friend, he, in spite of his playing a little by the way, has reached his journey's end. He first deposits his dinner in the trunk of an old oak, which always serves him for a closet; and then he begins to feed the poor sheep, who do not seem to enjoy the cold weather so much as himself.

## ARITHMÉTIQUE.

I. Trouvez la valeur de  $\frac{7}{11} \times \frac{3}{14} \div \frac{1}{8} +$

$$\frac{7}{12} - \frac{1}{14} + \frac{2}{3}.$$

Réponse:  $2\frac{83}{808}$ .

Opération:

$$\frac{7}{11} \times \frac{3}{14} = \frac{3}{22}, \frac{3}{22} \div \frac{1}{8} = \frac{3}{22} \times \frac{8}{1} = \frac{12}{11}, \frac{12}{11} + \frac{7}{12} - \frac{1}{14} + \frac{2}{3} = \frac{1008 + 539 - 66 + 616}{924} =$$

$$\frac{2097}{924} = 2\frac{83}{808}.$$

II. Une propriété vaut \$5980.40; j'en possède le  $\frac{1}{3}$ , le  $\frac{1}{4}$  et le  $\frac{1}{5}$ . Combien vaut ma part?

Réponse: \$4684.64 $\frac{2}{3}$ .

Solution:

$$\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{4} = \frac{20+12+15}{60} = \frac{47}{60}; \text{ les } \frac{47}{60} \text{ de } \$5980.40 = \$4684.64\frac{2}{3}.$$

## ÉCOLE MODÈLE.

## DICTÉE FRANÇAISE.

LE LAC DE COMÉ.

(Voir *Journal de l'Instruction publique*, livraison d'octobre, page 151.)

## DICTÉE ANGLAISE.

ON LETTER WRITING.

Epistolary as well as personal intercourse is, according to the mode in which it is carried on, one of the pleasantest or most irksome things in the world. It is delightful to drop in on a friend without the solemn prelude of invitation and acceptance, to join a social circle, where we may suffer our minds and hearts to relax and expand in the happy consciousness of perfect security from invidious remark and carping criticism; where we may give the reins to the sportiveness of innocent fancy, or the enthusiasm of warm-hearted feeling; where we may talk sense or nonsense, (I pity people who cannot talk nonsense,) without fear of being looked into icicles by the coldness of unimaginative people, living pieces of clock-work, who dare not themselves utter a word, or lift up a little finger, without first weighing the important point in the hair balance of propriety and good breeding.

It is equally delightful to let the pen talk freely, and unpremeditatedly, and to one by whom we are sure of being understood; but a formal letter, like a ceremonious morning visit, is tedious alike to the writer and receiver; for the most part spun out with unmeaning phrases, trite observations, complimentary flourishes, and protestations of respect and attachment, so far not deceitful, as they never deceive anybody. Oh, the misery of having to compose a set, proper, well-worded, correctly pointed, polite, elegant epistle! one that must have a beginning, a middle, and an end, as methodically arranged and portioned out as the several parts of a sermon under three heads, or the three gradations of shade in a school-girls first landscape!

## COMPOSITION FRANÇAISE.

Ecrire à un ami le jour des morts et faire la description des cérémonies funèbres du jour.

Faire allusion à la perte qu'a subie cet ami dans la personne d'un père et d'une mère chéris morts pendant l'année.

Deuil, condoléances etc.

Les joies si pures de la famille seront remplies par l'affection la plus sincère de l'ami le plus dévoué.