



The Night School.

Think you, when boys and girls are gone,  
And locked the schoolroom door,  
That learning there no longer dwells,  
And study hours are o'er?  
You're wrong, for hark you, just at twelve  
The school bell rings full loud,  
And in the pupils rush with glee,  
A bright-eyed lively crowd.

A gray old rat is principal,  
And teaches where to find  
The things that ought to be most clear  
To every ratty mind.  
Her lessons all are practical,  
And thus she fain would teach:  
Eat anything but rough on rats  
That comes within your reach.

## Young America.

Decided Opinions—I used to think I would like to be a teacher, like Edith says she is going to be, but lately I have changed my mind, as teachers have to study too much.—[Rosebud (Twelve), Iowa.]

It has always been a mystery to me why girls do not like kissing.—[Carl Dexter, Michigan.]

I have read Robinson Crusoe and The Swiss Family Robinson, but I think the latter is a little stretchy.—[Jack of All Trades.]

Well, Water Lily, I do not quite agree with you, but, as Phoebe thinks, I will mind my own business about it and think as I like.—[Pansy, Ontario.]

How many of our cousins have read the book, John Halifax? I am reading it now and am delighted with it. Good-by, cousins, I'll call again.—[Toadstool (Thirteen), Michigan.]

Just hear Marie W. talk about love. If you want to love someone, why, love your grandmother or others that are just as venerable.—[Up-to-Date Elsie.]

There are some of the Y A's who call for letters "that are not so silly," and then go on and write something just as silly.—[Canada Hawk.]

I would like to know what England is fighting for out to the Transvaal. [Frederick H. Saunders.]

I am fond of reading, and I think if girls would not read so many novels it would be better for them. They get so romantic.—[L., Pennsylvania.]

Not that I object to the practice of kissing, but why should we spend our time in such foolish work as writing about it?—[Saber Seventeen.]

Among Indians—I am a little girl away up here on the banks of the Mississippi. I wish my little Texas friends could see the river when it freezes. I never skated and am very anxious to try my luck. I have been among the Indians nearly six years. Shawnee, Sac and Foxes, and now the Sioux. I like Indians, for I know very little about white people, and mamma is so anxious for me to know some white children, as I was so small when I left Texas. I do not remember much about white children's ways or plays. Ours is an industrial school. We work half the



day and go to school half. I do not think I like white people, because they stare so when we go to town. I told some children not to look at me, and mamma said I did very wrong, because they only looked at me because they thought I was a white Indian.—[Me-kata.]

Girls—I do not like Dickens's works, the characters are so unreal and say so little in the most words. I started to read Old Curiosity Shop, but got tired of it and quit. Longfellow is my favorite poet and Mark Twain my favorite author. I have just finished reading Titus; it relates to Bible history. We debated at school last Friday on "Resolved, that girls are more intelligent than boys." The judges decided in favor of the girls. My favorite study is history. Our school is composed of about 30 scholars. Our teacher's name is Mr



Longenbough. If Fred Swanson would come out to the grand state of Colorado I would guarantee he could get plenty of girls to kiss him, but I do not see how he would be any better off by it. Well, I must check myself in due time. [Kittie Dillon (Fourteen), Colorado.]

Good Advice—I raised a nice big turkey and sold it and bought 11 Christmas presents with the money and gave them away and received eight presents. I have an old hen and I am going to see how many chickens I can raise. Water Lily, ma knew a girl that got married to her school teacher when she was 16 years old. He would not finish his school. They all said he was sick, but ma said she guessed it was love-sick. Ma went to see them a few years after and they had nothing to eat only oatmeal, and the woman went and begged the liver of the butcher. Water Lily, how would you like to do all that? Our teacher last winter read a chapter every morning out of Black Beauty and none of us wanted to be late. Do any of you F & H readers know anyone by the name of Fred Lyndon? He left home about three years ago and his folks never heard from him but once since he left, and he said in that one

letter that he suffered for something to eat before he could get work. So, boys, don't any of you ever run away from home.—[Grace Miller, Kansas.]

Earned It—Fred Swanson, I sympathize with you, for I have been over the same road if not worse. I went with a girl once that said that there was no boy that could kiss her if she did not want him to. I got to hear what she said, and thought I would try my luck. When I tried to kiss her, my, how she did slap and scratch! But I got the kiss just the same. But I earned it, I tell you I did. Then I began to laugh and told her not to boast any more. And she got mad and said she was going to tell her pa, and sure enough she did, and the next time I met him, oh, my! I did not get a flogging, but I would rather had one than what I got. Which do you think was to blame?—[Billie, the Kid.]

Proud—I have a 22-caliber Marlin rifle of which I feel very proud. I also have a wheel. Wheeling is great sport. It gives one an excellent appetite. Eva Claiborne, I perhaps, am a little worse than you; anyway, I am just as bad. I'd rather read than eat, or read while I eat. Geography and mathematics are my best studies because I can remember so well. Rudyard Kipling, Bill Nye, Mark Twain, Longfellow and Horatio Alger, Jr. are my favorite authors. I think one should read A Hardy Norseman, by Edna Lyall.—[Johnny Boy.]

Montreal—On my trip to Lowell I went to Boston, Montreal and Maynard, Mass. In Montreal I saw houses with flat roofs and Indians and Chinese. Before we came to Montreal we saw rocks higher than houses, and we saw a house built on one of the rocks, and what they lived on I do not know. Maynard is a little country town. I went to Boston and saw Bunker Hill monument. And yet, every place I saw I didn't like as I do Minneapolis.—[Ruth Kelley (Ten) Minnesota.]

Novels—Water Lily, you have read a lot of silly novels. I'm going to be a writer, but mine won't hurt you. My favorite author is Ezekiel Butterworth and I like "Samantha" and the poet Holmes. Dickens is perfectly ridiculous. I take the F & H just for the letters. Eva, we are troubled with chronic laziness and I think most schools with silliness.—[Miss Minnesota.]

Pets and Dolls—If there is anything I like it is pets. I have a pet dog named Ponto, a cat named Snowdrop and a bird named Pearl. I am quite too young to have beaux, but my larger sister has and I cavedrop on them. I'll bet you don't know why I do it. It is when I have beaux I will know how to act. That is a pretty good idea. I think, don't you? [Wide-Awake (Twelve).]

I have three dolls. The biggest doll is Isabelle, the next is Lizzie, the other is not really my own. It was my mother's when she was a little girl, but I call her mine and her name is Addie.—[Kittie Rivers (Nine), New York.]

For pets I have a blue cat. It got one of its ears froze off last winter. I have a white and black spotted shepherd dog. I live one-half mile from school. I have been every day but two this winter. My teacher's name is Mr Davis E. Hughes. My mamma is making me a dress out of one of her old ones. My oldest brother is in charge of the telegraph office at Pinkstaff, Ill. I like to sew. I have pieced a quilt.—[Pearl H. Miller (Nine), Illinois.]

I dressed my doll up for a fair that we had this fall and got the prize. It was a scrap book.—[Anna W. Doran.]

I think it is all right for the little folks to talk about pets, and a great deal better than it is for the larger ones to talk about kissing so much.—[Chester Honnold (Twelve), Nebraska.]

What is invisible blue? A policeman when he is wanted.

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