

early settlers, and present day people, with contrasts on the mode of life, customs, advantages and disadvantages of each. Thus history and geography may be correlated, and both should begin at home by keeping alive the interest that every child feels in his native place and whatever pertains to it. Then may come the wider outlook on Canada, on the home land and other countries of the world.

All teachers have it in their power to present broad, entertaining sketches of history and story like this. When the study of the text book is finally taken up, the children's interest has been aroused, and they have an insatiable desire to know more,—of themselves, of their country and of the world. It is well if the teacher can keep up the interest which the primary teacher has aroused and not stifle it with merely memorizing pages and dates.

Plan to Restore a Bird.

Readers of the REVIEW will be interested in the article on another page concerning a bird once very common in this part of America, and the efforts now being made to re-discover it. Great flocks of the Wild or Passenger Pigeon, about forty years ago, were to be seen in these provinces, and the wholesale destruction of this beautiful bird has made less the charms of our groves and woodlands. Mr. Lochhead clearly points out the cause of its wholesale and wanton destruction. So thoroughly has it disappeared that scarcely a trace has been seen in the last twenty years or more. If a few stragglers still come here to breed—for it is a migrating bird—they have eluded observation. The last authentic appearance in this region, so far as we are aware, is that recorded at Dexter, Maine, August 16, 1896, in Knight's "Birds of Maine." Dr. W. E. McIntyre of St. John, who was familiar with the birds in his boyhood, claims to have seen one last autumn in the neighborhood of Musquash, N. B.

The prize of \$300, with the supplementary local rewards that may be offered by those interested in the re-discovery of this bird, should stimulate a thorough search of our woods where it was formerly so abundant. Teachers can help along this good work by making known to the sharp-eyed boys and girls what is given in this month's REVIEW, and what may be gathered about the

appearance and habits of the bird from old residents. It should be remembered that, owing to persecution, the wild pigeons have changed their habits. They no longer breed in colonies but in isolated pairs.

A prize that will largely help to put a boy or girl through college or to make a start in life is worth trying for. If it is not won, there will remain the joy and excitement of quest, the rebounding health from long rambles through the woods, and the knowledge of some of nature's mysteries. These will remain as a life-long possession.

To help those interested in the search, the following description of the Passenger or Wild Pigeon (*Ectopistes migratorius*, Linn.) is taken from Knight's "The Birds of Maine:"

Plumage of adult male: above bluish slate colour with metallic reflections on the back and sides of the neck; middle of back tinged with olive brown; inner tail feathers fuscous, the outer blackish at base ranging into slaty blue outward, with broad whitish tips; lower belly white; rest of under parts delicate vinaceous. Plumage of adult female: differs from that of the male in the head being light drab, with scarcely any bluish tinge to the occiput; the upper parts more olive brown and far less metallic; breast pale, grayish brown. Immature plumage: differs from the female in the feathers of the head, neck, scapulars, wing coverts and chest being slightly tipped with whitish. Wing 8 to 8.5 inches.

The same author has the following about the nesting and other habits of the bird:

The birds formerly nested by hundreds in hardwood growth, placing their nests by scores in the trees. The nests were very fragile and composed of sticks arranged to make a mere platform through which the eggs could be seen from below. One or two pure white eggs were laid which measured 1.47x1.09 inches. Both birds were said to assist in building the nest and incubating and caring for the young. The old settlers said that their notes were a "coo-coo," similar to but shorter and quicker than the notes of the common Domestic Dove, while they also had a call-note much like "see-see-see."

Their food was largely beech-nuts and acorns (the so-called "mast"), also berries, cherries and insects. . . . Netted by the million, met by destructive men at every feeding and breeding place, is it any wonder that the countless millions of the past are with us no longer?

The Study of English.

A prominent teacher of a Maritime Province educational institution urges the REVIEW to emphasize the importance of right methods in teaching English, especially from grade eight onward. He says: "If the attainments of our students (and they are not dullards nor incapables) in the