

History, geography and languages also "dragged their slow length along," the hammering-in process continuing. But it is nearly three, and all seem in a hurry to begin the literature class.

The old schoolmaster sits down, smacks his lips, and perhaps picks up a copy of Scott's "*Lady of the Lake*"—not that he needed a text-book. He knew it all by heart. He begins to talk. One pupil asks a question, another answers it; before long many have told little stories in their own way, and told them well, whereas had it been suggested that they were to tell a tale, not one in the class would have opened his mouth. The schoolmaster unbuttoned his coat, but does not look at his watch, nor does he button up his coat again. He rushes his hands through his hair, not knowing nor caring that a bald spot has remained uncovered. Even the neatly tied bow is untied, and on occasions we have seen him take his collar and cuffs entirely off. But he did not know it, nor did the pupils think anything about it. Why should they? Were they not wandering by the side of Lake Katrine with the beautiful *Lady of the Lake*, or watching Fitz James and Roderick Dhu fight the fatal battle, or catching the soul-meaning of the splendid metaphors so nicely woven into Scott's rhythmical numbers?

One hour slipped by and the closing bell rang, but no one heard, and often five o'clock struck and no one cared. Master and pupils were learning and living and knowing things and truths they never knew before. All were interested, all were at home, all were pleased, all were happy. There was no such thing as time or age, for the old master was as young as Helen Douglas, and the youngest pupil was as wise as the old master. They were one and all on the "*Royal Road*" to learning; they were drawing from the great reservoir of information about them as it appealed to the intelligence within. They gave it out, and it was more than text-books taught and easily comprehended.

Other novels were planned and other heroines pictured and other adventures described till each pupil became the embodi-