

When not more than twelve years old she came under the influence of a remarkable teacher who conducted a private school near her home. This lady recognized the rare mental endowments of the young girl, and did much to develop in her a taste for the best in literature and art, and to aid her in cultivating her own style.

While in her teens she took the course in Grand Pre Seminary, graduating in 1867. The five or six years which followed were full of strenuous mental work. The best literature was not only eagerly devoured but well digested. She had a quick and retentive memory, and the poets, especially Tennyson and Shakespeare were read and re-read, until they became part of her mental furnishing. Years later she studied Browning in the same way. Though she did not again attend school or college, she so disciplined herself by careful reading and writing that she gained a command of her mental powers equalled by few college graduates.

From 1873-1879 she had charge of the Seminary, which was then organized as a department of Horton Academy. During the last two years of that time it was the writer's good fortune to be one of her girls. Though when she came to this work she had enjoyed no wide opportunities, and was without experience in teaching, she soon demonstrated her entire fitness for her difficult task. She gave herself to it without stint. The amount of work she carried is simply appalling in these days of specialization and division of labor. She spent four or five hours daily in the class-room, teaching the most varied subjects—Latin, English Literature, rhetoric, mental philosophy, elocution, botany, physiology—and teaching each with the ability and thoroughness of a specialist in that department. As a former pupil of hers remarked the other day, "whatever she taught, she taught well." She was a teacher "to the manor born." She had the quick sympathy which led her to appreciate and make the most of any attempt at thought or expression by the dullest student, and the inspiring power which made any subject dealt with for the time the most interesting. But this class-room teaching was only a fraction of her work. She had charge also of the drawing and painting, as well as the general oversight of the young ladies.

In her intercourse with the students, while always self-contained and dignified, she was uniformly gracious and sympathetic, and she formed many friendships with them which have been life-long. A few years ago, in connection with the furnishing of a room in the Seminary to bear her name, it was my privilege to share in the pleasant task of writing to a large number of her former pupils. The answers received made a chorus of loving appreciation and gratitude, and showed that after twenty years her influence was still felt in many lives.