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**IS 94 YEARS OLD BUT
READILY RECALLS HALF
CENTURY AS TEACHER.**

Miss Charity Snadden, Charming Old Lady, Gives Reminiscences of "Dear Old Golden Rule Days" in Liverpool, Charlottetown and Montreal—Change and Progress Down Through the Years.

BY ALICE S. MACFLOD IN HALIFAX CHRONICLE

Miss Charity Snadden, of Liverpool, had a caller, who had come, however, with little hope of seeing her, since she was said to be quite infirm and confined to her bed; but it happened that Miss Snadden was nothing of the kind. She was, in fact, out upon the street, taking a constitutional; and so her caller waited.

After a time Miss Snadden came in, an erect, slender figure in long black coat and small bonnet. She extended a delicate hand in a firm clasp, tossed aside her fur and seated herself upon a parlor seat, quite regardless of its lack of any back-rest.

"Yes I am ninety four years old, I believe," she said, "although I have not the date of my birth at hand," "however, my brother, who is about twelve years my junior, says that is my correct age. Doubtless, he is right, for he remembers a great many things that happened before he was born," she added with a smile for the "gift of dates" of this younger brother.

"My teaching career! But I do not wish to say anything of it for publication, because I have nothing worth while to say."

HAD MUCH TO SAY.

It came to pass however, that Miss Snadden had much of interest to say, although dates and periods were vague to her, because of impaired memory.

"I cannot remember in what years the various events took place," she said, "and it is difficult for me to recall names of persons."

"Oh, but I am very well and take a walk almost every day, although during the winter I was confined to my bed, now we shall soon be moving from this hotel to our home across the street, my brother and I." She indicated a large brown residence, "my brother has one half of the house, with his office etc., and the other, it is the old home to which my parents were born. My father was an Englishman."

Miss Snadden is English like every inch; and every inch well-bred.

HALF CENTURY AS TEACHER.

For half century she had followed the teaching profession—at Liverpool, at Charlottetown for many years, at Montreal. Class after class, from succeeding generations, had come under her teaching, done the work she set them to do, and passed on to their place in life. What had been her influence upon them?

"The steady blue-gray eyes, the firm but gentle lips, the poised figure upon the backless seat, gave favorable answer.

"I taught myself and my pupils to sit and stand correctly, she said, declining an easy rocker.

"A very successful teacher," people say of her.

Fifty years of success at one's hosen work! Fortunate Miss Snadden—for surely teaching must have been her choice, as she would not doubt affirm.

"Why did you decide on a teaching career Miss Snadden?"

"Because I needed to earn my living and teaching was the only work I could do," was the direct reply.

"Teaching from necessity, then, or fifty years—and, perhaps not liking the work, the point must be settled.

"Miss Snadden, if you had your life to live again, would you choose to be a teacher?"

WOULD DO IT AGAIN

There was no hesitancy in her answer. "If it were permitted to begin my life work, I should teach!" no other calling, perhaps not even the Christian ministry, carries with it greater opportunities for doing good; but I should want a college education to start with."

"Think of the advantages that await the young people of today. Education was a matter of difficulty in my day, and I had only the preparation afforded by such schools as there were, and by hard manual training under Dr. Forrest, I loved study and would so have liked to pursue it farther, I love it."

COULD NOT BE TAUGHT.

"I never could learn music, Miss Snadden volunteered. "I cannot tell one tune from another! It was a great disappointment to my aunts at Halifax with whom I lived while at school. They had the best teacher for me—Prof. Hagarty of St. Mary's. He was a wonderful teacher—but he couldn't teach me!"

She returned again to the dictation poetry, it had plainly been a specialty of her teaching days. The "girls" whom she had taught would often speak to her now of poems they remembered from her teaching, so that some passages, at least, had lingered in their minds. What poets had she preferred

BRINGING UP FATHER

How do you write "CORNED BEEF IN A CABBAGE" IN JAPANESE? WANT A COPY OF IT!

HERE YOU ARE—MR. JIGGS!

THAT ISN'T IT!

YEP—THAT'S IT—I'VE FOUND IT AT LAST!

YOU ASKED? DON'T TALK! JUST KEEP BRINGIN' IT IN UNTIL I TELL YOU I'VE HAD ENOUGH!

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**Another Diamond
Rush In South Africa**

What has been called, with picturesque inaccuracy, "The Last Rush" recently took place in the Lichtenberg region of South Africa, where thousands of eager prospectors, at the crack of a pistol, set off at top speed for a new diamond field, three miles away. A short time before there was a false alert which resulted in the Mining Commission calling all the prospectors back and starting them again. Many of those who took part were crack distance runners, imported from Australia, and other parts of South Africa. They represented prospectors who had shewn a hand some start for staking out early claims, and also promised to pay them a percentage on any diamonds subsequently found. It is not likely that this really was the last rush to dig diamonds, unless we are to assume that all the diamond regions of the world are already known and occupied. It is a bit rash to make

ALWAYS MAINTAINED ORDER.

As to discipline: "I always was able to maintain order," Miss Snadden said, "my pupils, she added, "were from the best families, both here and at the Island. Here at Liverpool, I taught in a large room; but at Charlottetown was a fine large building the property of the Methodist church. When free schools were inaugurated, a great large building was put up at a distance, and the two were maintained jointly, by the Methodist church and the Board of Free Schools."

"It was designed that boys should attend the one school and girls the other, although a strict division was not possible. However I got along well enough with both boys and girls in my different schools, and only once did I have to use corporal punishment. A boy once became very insolent as I was passing his desk, and I rapped him smartly with my ruler, which he seized from my hand and, standing at defiance, said 'will you strike me?'"

"I recovered my ruler and I said 'yes, and I will strike you yet again if you do not behave,' after that he subsided. I forgot his name, he was a boy in my school now, suppose he is now a man of the law."

It is safe to assume that the man will not come forward and admit his disgrace—the only pupil in Miss Snadden's fifty years of teaching, upon whom she needed to use the rod.

She became silent and her reminiscent gaze seemed to include those many other pupils whom she had disciplined without corporal punishment, but whose training, nevertheless, had called for patience, forbearance, kindness and tact and a never-failing firmness of purpose.

You are able to look back upon a very useful life, Miss Snadden."

THE PASSING YEARS

Miss Snadden dropped her gaze to her folded hands, like the shy young girl no doubt was, many years ago.

"I have doubts," she said, "but I could have done better work. There is a little verse that comes into my mind sometimes."

"And faint would I recall the passing years,
And ask them what report they have borne to Heaven,
And how they might have borne more welcome news."

Would she dictate the little verse?

"Certainly."

Having dictated poetry for fifty years, and having retired from such work for nearly twenty years, she resumed for the moment her old vocation and with clear voice lined out the stanza.

"I do not know who wrote it," she said, "but I often think of it as I apply to myself."

She followed her visitor to the door.

"I shall soon be moving to my home," she said, "and shall be somewhat busy, I have a charwoman come once a week, but I do the little things about the house—dusting and making beds and the like. It is not much—and we go out for meals."

A breath of growing things came through the open doorway, the lawns were showing a little green. "The Spring time is coming now," said Miss Snadden, "after the long, cold winter."

She put out her thin hand, standing erect under the burdens that the years had placed upon her. Her eyes were very kind, she was very glad to have helped, and perhaps a little sorry to say "Good-bye."

"Dear Miss Charity Snadden, Alice Slocumb MacLeod."

this assumption, for it is not sixty years ago since the great South African fields were discovered. There are more diamonds lying in the earth than the present generation of geologists and prospectors knows about, and there will be rushes to dig them out in future generations.

A Diamond Claim

A diamond claim is now understood to be a square thirty feet by thirty feet. The farmer on whose lands diamonds are found is required to report the matter to the Government. He is then given the privilege of staking out 200 claims of his own before the rush begins, and may be able to work himself out to the highest bidder. He also receives 50 per cent of the proceeds of five claims, which everybody must pay before he is entitled to dig. A plot thirty feet square of alluvial soil might easily disclose diamonds worth millions of dollars, and if surface digging and washing did not turn up anything of value, the average prospector would not trouble about deep digging. This would not be feasible on such a narrow plot. If a field showed sufficient richness it would be permitted to the holders of permits to combine to sink shafts or to sell out to a mining company with the necessary equipment and capital to make a thorough investigation of the earth far beneath the surface. It was in one of these open cut mines, as they are called, huge open pits, blasted and dug to a great depth, that the greatest of all diamonds, the Cullinan, was found. It weighed in its rough state about a pound and three quarters and when cut furnished four extraordinary stones, five others of great beauty and some smaller ones, the total value having been estimated at between \$3,000,000 and \$5,000,000. The largest of them are part of the British Crown Jewels.

The First African Diamond

In 1867 a Dutch farmer named Daniel Jacobs dwelt on the banks of the Orange River. Father, mother and a brood of children, lived and ate in a single room and snoozed and snored in a single lawdike corded bed. The youngsters, as they wandered over the farm and particularly along the low banks of the river, found many blink klippe or "shiny stones" as they called them. They were of all colors and degrees of brightness, some of them being pure white and very hard. They were all amusing to the children who used to carry them in the house and in the absence of other toys play with them for hours. One blink klippe excelled all the others in brightness and was a particular favorite. One day Jacobs told a neighbor about this bright white stone, and somewhat excited his interest. He thought it might just possibly be a diamond and as he was always ready to take a chance he determined to test hold of the stone. So he went to Jacobs' farm and demanded to see it. There was a search for it but it could not be found. Then it was disclosed that Frau Jacobs, tired of seeing it about, had thrown it out in the vegetable garden.

Geologist's Prediction

The children were then sent hunting for it and in half an hour its gleam revealed its whereabouts. The neighbor examined it solemnly and after considerable dithering became the possessor of the stone for a yoke of oxen and a pair of bullocks. He held the stone for some time before disposing of it to an Englishman named John O'Reilly, who took a chance in the belief that the pebble was really a 200-carat diamond. He paid 510 pounds for it and later a geologist confirmed his guess and told him he had made a good bargain. The geologist also expressed the opinion that a search of the Jacobs' farm might reveal other stones. News of the find got abroad but the geologist was generally ridiculed. It was said that undoubtedly this diamond had been brought in the crop of an ostrich from some distant point. It was manifestly absurd that on the farm of such an undistinguished farmer as Jacobs real diamonds should be rife. There was a half-hearted survey made, however, and a few stones of trifling value were found. This confirmed popular opinion that the geologist was a dunder-head and the finding was commuted to him.

The First Rush

In 1869 in the same region there came to light an 83-carat diamond, which sold for 11,000 pounds and after being cut, fetched \$25,000 pounds. This is the historical stone known as the "Star of South Africa," which led to the year to the famous trek to the diamond fields, the second in the history of South Africa, the first having been the moving out of the Boers to the Transvaal. The first operations were like those common to the world, namely the searching of the surface gravel and the sifting of the stones, something on the principle of surface gold mining. The South African diamond fields, like

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in
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any others that have been worked the depths that the surface do for a considerable time, showed months have been forced to the surface, that between the surface soil con face through flaws or cracks in the taluing the diamonds that are intervening wall. In South Africa variably found first, and the deep-to-day the important mines are those which go far below the surface, here is a stratum of rock that face of the earth into the dark and contains no diamonds, but serves rich interior. It is from as a wall and barrier.

Agricultural Meetings

Mr. J. A. Clark, Superintendent of the Charlottetown Experimental Station, will hold a series of meetings to discuss farm problems at the following places on the dates mentioned:

Rose Valley, March 29th at	7.30 p.m.
Rustico, March 30th at	7.30 p.m.
Iona, April 1st at	7.30 p.m.
Richmond, April 4th at	8.00 p.m.
Mount Carmel, April 5th at	1.00 p.m.
West Devon, April 5th at	8.30 p.m.
Palmer Road, April 6th at	7.30 p.m.
Elmsdale, April 7th at	7.30 p.m.
Glenwood, April 8th at	2.00 p.m.
O'Leary, April 8th at	7.30 p.m.
Red Point, April 11th at	7.30 p.m.
St. Peters, April 12th at	7.30 p.m.
Montague, April 13th at	7.30 p.m.
Mount Vernon, April 14th at	7.30 p.m.

Everyone interested is invited to attend. The operators of the Illustration Stations will be at the meetings held in their districts, and there will be interesting discussions on soil fertility and farm crops. 4611-3-29,4,2,6,9,41.

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By George McMan