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A Difficult Problem-Can You Solve It.

DEAR TEACHERS:—When I was a lad of sixteen, I found in Adam's Arithmetic the foll wing problem which I offer you for solution:

EXAMPLE.

Where should a pole 120 feet high be broken that the top may rest on the ground 40 feet from the base?

Answer:—534 feet.

base?

Answer:—53\(\frac{1}{2}\) feet.

Until 1894 I was mable to solve this example, believing it was not a true arithmetical question, but at toat time I was placed in a position where I must prove it or acknowledge in public a defeat. I solved it and finally evolved a simple explanation. I now offer it to you. It is not algebraical in any manner. If you desire any instruction write enclosing stamp, It will be good practice to try even if you fail to get satisfaction by your own efforts. Give it to your advanced pupils and if any of them obtain a satisfactory explanation send it to me.

Very Respectfully, A. H. Craig, Mukwonago, Wis-

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