

Our Contributors.

THE FORMATIVE POWER OF THE SABBATH SCHOOL.

"The Kingdom" encloses all of life, as the heaven is for the meal, not a part, but for the "whole lump."

At the threshold of life, at the most formative, the most receptive, period is the Sabbath school. Wisely narrowed to social, moral and spiritual ends. Designed not to supplant the obligations of home, but to supplement; not to compete with our excellent national educational system, but to round out and complete. It is of perpetual interest as it stands for the enduring and the eternal. From its inception, it has to this day steadily enlarged, and the essential aim and purpose grown in clearness. Never was the supreme thought so fully realized and so completely expressed as today.

When the Grammar School of St. Paul's, London, was opened, the founder, Dean Cobet, placed above the master's chair a portrait of Jesus, and wrote beneath it these words: "Hear ye Him." To the good Dean, Jesus was to be, to be effective, the atmosphere, the rule, the spirit, and the formative power of that famed school.

When our Lord said: "Suffer little children, etc.," He created the Sabbath school; gave its supreme object; declared its gracious purpose; its unchangeable mission, and beneficent ministry. For He alone is the way of life, the truth of life, and the life of our life.

Then (1) it follows that He is the light of the Book. Book precious because of a Person. "For in Him was life, and the life was the light of men." The light of the Father, the light of man, and the meeting place of God and man." For God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself." Nothing greater than His Spirit; nothing higher than His thought; nothing beyond His sure way. The ultimate; sure resting places for us and our salvation.

Then (2) His Spirit, as expressed in word and deed, set forth in a life within humanity, is the creative force, the formative power of all true life, and the open secret of Christly character.

And (3) to reproduce, to form in tender hearts and minds, "the image of Jesus," is the end and purpose of the Sabbath school. If that be fact—and it is humbly thought so—then clearly we have in the purpose of one of the most valued blessings in our midst, both for the law to govern, and the spirit to control, as well as the formative power, as to an institution so momentous, and so fruitful in blessedness. Without doubt, no past period equals our day and age in what may be termed the mechanism, and machinery of our work; and most certainly in the high character of our ideals. Wisely this is so. The intelligence of the age is met with enlarged wisdom of adaptation. Method is essential to effective-

ness; and procedure to wise results. Skill belongs to larger gains, and wisdom to success. But, withal, it remains true, and unchangeable: "It is not by might, nor by power but by My Spirit, saith the Lord." Power is the one necessity to make effective the most perfect plans; and to fill out the most exalted ideals. This thought of "power" is strangely misunderstood! We sing: "Come Holy Spirit, Come." What have we brought to the Sabbath school? The lesson that is of us, by prayer and meditation a force within will find lodgement, and look and word not return void of some results. PRAYER is still our lever, and our driving power; not only creative, but controlling, guiding and giving an atmosphere of brightness, joy and gladness. To teach is to know, and truth real is of experience. Said Emerson, once to a friend: "I cannot hear what you say for the noise of what you are." Personality comes first, in the way of the kingdom; and personality is the chief factor in all effective teaching. Prayer is yoking personality to divine forces. It is letting the soul dwell in light, to give light. Bathing mind and heart in the precious dews of heaven. Steeped grain grows best, and tempered steel is most effective. What we bring to the school of wisdom, grace, and power, that the school is. All collective force is a unity of parts. And in union is the realization of the parts. The Spirit of the Sabbath school, the atmosphere, the general aim, these will be the abiding and last memories of the school. Hence the priceless value of the ideal, the distinct aim, and the clear and well defined purpose.

In life the mother comes before the teacher, and home before the school. The earliest and last impressions are of the mother and the home. The home was at the foundation of the Jewish State, as it is of Anglo-Saxon civilization. The true thought and spirit of home are at the roots of Christianity, and the Christian religion. To build from that thought and spirit, and carry up that at the foundation of all wisdom, is the obligation of the Sabbath school.

The home idea is the real formative, in "nurture," in "admonition," in gracious heart to heart ministry, to work in the light of the ideal home, Jesus being like the fabled silver lamp in the tent, all reflecting His beauty. The beauty of all beauty, the grace of all grace, a spirit, a law, understood, received, loved and cherished by Christ and man.

Brightness belongs to the stars, beauty to the flowers, gentleness to the refreshing dews, but every grace is found in Him, who came as the attraction, charm and Saviour of, as John Bright said, "our precious children." He the chief heart's treasure, the mind's great beauty, the soul's only rest, is and must ever be voice, thought, spirit, of all enduring work, and alone in His Spirit is

found our highest service, and the treasured formative power of the cherished Sabbath school.

T. H. SIDDALL.

THE "COD MEADOWS."

The finest codfish in the world are caught on the banks of Newfoundland. These banks have no connection with the shores of the island, from which the nearest is almost one hundred miles distant. They are really rocky heights rising from the bottom of the sea. The Great Bank measures 540 miles from north to south and 300 miles from east to west. On this bank the depth of water varies from 50 to 360 feet, while the depth round it is from 10,000 to 15,000 feet.

The fishing grounds, or "cod meadows," as they are called, do not cover the whole bank, but are about 200 miles long and 57 miles broad. Though these have been fished for 400 years, the cod are as plentiful as ever.

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Doctors and nurses recommend Dr. Williams' Pink Pills because they have seen their wonderful power to make new, rich, red blood, and to cure all diseases due to poor blood or weak nerves. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are not a common medicine. They do not purge and weaken. They contain no poisonous drugs. They are safe, sure, simple, stimulating, and scientific. That is why these pills should be taken by all who are weak, bloodless, nerveless and sickly. Here is a bit of very positive proof of the wonderful power to conquer disease which Dr. Williams' Pink Pills possess: Miss Esther E. Lewis, Lynn, N. S., says: "At the age of sixteen my health failed me completely. At that time I was attacked by la grippe, which was followed by measles, from the after effects of which I was left in a deplorable condition. I became very pale, suffered from headaches, dizziness and want of appetite. I tried several medicines but they did me no good; on the contrary I was growing weaker, and finally became so bad that I would take spells of unconsciousness lasting from fifteen minutes to an hour at a time, and I had become so weak that I could hardly move about. At this stage I was advised to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and I have good good reason to bless the day I began their use. I had only taken them a few weeks when I began to recover, and under their continued use for some time longer I fully regained my former good health. I will be glad if my experience will be of benefit to some other poor sufferer."

When buying the pills see that the full name, "Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People," is printed on the wrapper around each box. Sold by all dealers or sent by mail at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50 by writing the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

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