

'Dear boys and girls, remember me at the throne of grace?''

In 1858 only 87 schools in Connecticut reported teachers' meetings; now 365 schools have this essential adjunct of a good school. More than one-half of the schools use one lesson for the entire school, instead of the old "Babel series." The net gain of scholars in eleven years is 34,336. It is not a pleasant item to note that sixty-six per cent. of all the money collected in the schools is still used in school expenses. It is a shame that so generally the parishes force their schools to shirk for themselves, failing to furnish the scanty means necessary for their support.

"THE GREAT OBJECT of the Sabbath School." On this point the *Baptist Teacher* for October says:—"We owe it to the Sunday school and the experience it has brought that the theory which makes the conversion of the soul the exclusive aim is being fast exploded. . . . Not to adopt any favourite theory, nor carry out any preconceived plans, but from the pressing necessities of actual experience, sincere and successful Sunday-school workers have been driven to enlarge their aim, so as to include not only the conversion but the *Christian culture* of the soul."

THE BIBLE CLASS.—The usefulness of a Bible-class is chiefly this: that it creates an appetite, rather than stuffs with food; and that it encourages each member to work out something for himself. We have enough of pouring in, of making *cast* opinions, as men make "cast" iron. We need a great deal more of "wrought" opinion, of convictions actually *worked out* in each individual mind.

TRUST CHILDREN.—Never accuse a child of a fault unless you are certain he committed it. Children should not be treated with suspicion. We should act toward them in this matter as we feel we ought to act towards others, only with greater tenderness—not less, as is usually done. We should always put the best construction possible upon their conduct; that is unless you are sure a child is telling a lie, and can prove it, do

not show the slightest hesitation in believing what he says. Far better that you should be deceived than run the risk of showing a truthful child you do not trust him. Your simple trust makes a lying child truthful. Your doubt of his truthfulness may make a truthful child a liar.—*Christian Weekly*.

HONORARY MEMBERS.—Not bad is this remark of a pastor: "Two-thirds of the members of my church are honorary members. They don't come to prayer-meetings; they don't attend the Sabbath-school; they don't add to the life of the church; they are passengers on the Gospel ship; they bear no burdens; add no strength; their names are on our books; they are honorary members."

TEST QUESTIONS.—Do I hate sin heartily, and fight against it daily?

Do I distrust self, and watch my own heart closely?

Do I trust Jesus, and Jesus only?

Do I love souls, and labour to win them to Christ faithfully?

Do I live as I pray, or do I only pray as I live?

Do I care more to please God than to please every other being in the universe?

When men or women can honestly say yes to these searching questions, they may venture to make open confession of their faith in Christ. Until you can give this answer in all sincerity, do not ask to be admitted into Christ's visible Church.—*T. L. Cruyer*.

Bishop Beveridge settles the matter of justification and good works, and their relation to each other, thus: "How can I do good works in order to my justification, when I can do no good works till after I am justified?"

The husks of emptiness rustle in every wind; the full corn in the ear holds up its golden fruit noiselessly to the Lord of the harvest.

EDITORIAL POSTSCRIPT.—We have no special word to add this month, except to wish all our readers, in heart and home, in church and school, one of the happiest of all Happy New Years!