

### Encouraging to Superintendents.

During a journey that I took last year for the benefit of my health, I spent a few weeks in the town of D., N. H. One evening as we were sitting down to tea at the boarding-house where I stopped, a travelling merchant came in and requested lodgings for the night. During the evening I became considerably acquainted with him, and found him a pleasant, well-informed gentleman.

In the course of conversation some one spoke of W. as my place of residence. The gentleman started as though a new idea had just presented itself, and looking me full in the face, he said, "Do you reside in W.?" I replied in the affirmative. "Perhaps, then," he continued, "you will be able to give me the name of the superintendent of the ——— Sabbath School?"

"O yes," I replied, "with the greatest pleasure, for I am myself a member of that school when at home, and the name of our superintendent is one that I love to repeat."

As I gave him the name, he wrote it down upon a card, and placing it carefully in his pocket-book, said, "To me also that name is dear, although I now hear it for the first time."

Perceiving that he had excited our curiosity, he continued: "Some four or five years since, I spent a Sabbath in W. I was a stranger there, but I thought I would attend public worship. I entered the first church that came in my way. I afterwards learned it was the ———. Who the preacher was, I do not know. The sermon made no distinct impression upon my mind. But I remember that Sabbath School. Mere curiosity induced me to remain in my seat, that I might see how the school was conducted. But the kind, gentlemanly manner of the superintendent, as he went from class to class, attracted my attention, and before I was aware of it, I became deeply interested in the man. This, of course, prepared me to give attention to his short address at the close of the school. He occupied only a few moments, but I recollect thinking that I had seldom heard a more impressive address.

"In the afternoon and evening I attended other churches, and other subjects took my attention.

"The next morning I started early to pursue my journey, and the events of the Sabbath were forgotten. But when far away among the hills of another State, in the deep solitude of the wilderness, the remarks of that superintendent came back to me with thrilling power. In vain did I try to forget them; in vain did I seek to turn my thoughts to other subjects—I could not banish them from my mind. They followed me for days and weeks together. In the darkness of midnight, in the still hour of twilight, and even in the crowded mart of business, those few words of death, judgment, and eternity, would come over my

mind with almost overwhelming force. I began to look upon myself as a sinner, bound to the judgment seat of an offended God. These thoughts made me wretched. Something seemed to whisper continually, 'Flee from the wrath to come.' But whither should I flee? I saw no way of escape.

"Then again, amid the darkness that surrounded me, I remembered that Sabbath School address. The advice to those children was, 'If you would be good and wise, study your Bible.' This I felt was just what my own soul required.

"I did study my Bible, and soon found peace in believing in Jesus.

"But now other thoughts rushed upon my mind. I was a father. Had I done my duty to my little son? Conscience whispered hard things upon this subject, and I hastened home to tell my child the wonders of redeeming love, and point him to 'the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world.'

"That boy is now a devoted Christian. He has already exerted a decided influence over his classmates at school. They in their turn, will act upon other minds, and how far the influence of that address will extend, eternity alone will reveal."

R. W. A.

—Well-Spring.

### Do you visit your Scholars?

Will you take a hint from an old teacher, and do so? I have found the benefit of it in my class, and the more you visit the parents, the more interest they will take in your school. I have always made it a rule, if a child is absent, to see the parent before the following Sunday, and have found much benefit and interesting conversation in these visits. If a child in my class is absent, the parent is sure to look for my calling. A few years back I had a boy whose parents were respectable, but very careless respecting his attendance at the school, and seldom at any place of worship, spending the Sabbath as too many others do, out on pleasure. By my continual calling after the youth, and persevering efforts for his attendance, and conversation with the parents, they were led to think that there must be something (to use their own words) good in the school.

I got the boy to be regular, and in time morning and afternoon, and the parents to a place of worship; after a short time the father joined the school as a teacher, and turned out a most pious excellent man, and a great distributor of tracts on Sabbath mornings also.

This is only one result of visiting the children out of many others that could be named.

Some may plead want of time; surely all could spare a few minutes. I was at this time engaged from half-past eight in the morning till seven at night.

Try what can be done.