

Miscellaneous.

IN THE DARK.

BY ALICE GRAY.

Has the spring come back, my darling, Has the long and soaking rain Been moided into the tender leaves...

Are the flowers dressed out, my darling, In their kerchiefs plain or bright? The groundwort gay, and the lady of May...

Have the birds come back, my darling, The birds from over the sea? Are they cooing and courting together...

Are the building their nests, my darling, In the stubble, brittle and brown? Are they gathering threads, and silken shreds...

THE SUCCESSFUL SUPERINTENDENT.

The successful superintendent is described by a writer in the S. S. Journal as follows:—

1. He was a man of prayer. He prayed much in secret, and God did reward him openly. When he prayed in his school his prayers were short and earnest.

2. He was instructive. He loved God's word and studied it. He was conversant with the standard works of the Church.

3. He was full of energy. He would visit a deserted neighborhood, procure a place to hold a school, and then, in strong reliance upon God, would begin his work.

4. His aim was to glorify God and give souls. Everything tended to this; nothing was tolerated that interfered with it.

5. He was never dry. Such a man could not be dry. He had too much real feeling for that.

6. He succeeded. It was no wonder. The wonder would have been if he had not. His schools flourished. Churches sprang out of them.

SERVICES OF STUPIDITY.

Our stupidity, in short, preserves a convenient twilight; it hangs like a fog over contending armies, which enables the rival commanders to shift their positions and gradually to occupy important posts without giving the alarm.

man, who can fairly be called great, ever had a narrower escape from stupidity. With certain great talents, he had one characteristic peculiarity of fools—that of being provided with a pair of natural blinders, which compelled him to see only that which was straight before him...

LAWYERS AND MINISTERS.

Lawyers and ministers are often compared together, to the deparagement of the latter. We have no confidence in such comparisons. If they must be made, let a poor minister be compared with a poor lawyer, and not a poor minister with an eminent lawyer.

It is often said, by way of berating a people for not being captivated with an aged ministerial candidate, that lawyers and judges grow in public esteem as years and experience bring wisdom; but ministers, forsooth, must pass for worn-out men as soon as they reach a ripe age.

"How large a proportion of the Boston lawyers depend for their business on appearing in court?"

"Seven eighths of the legal business of Boston is office-business," he replied.

"You can count them on your fingers." The simple fact is, that in the ministry public speaking is almost universally required, while in the legal profession it is comparatively of little account.

Our legal friend answered one question which we did not ask. "One third," said he, "of the Boston lawyers do not make a living by their profession."

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