

soms of genuine christianity in young disciples of the adored and loved Master. Still, important as the presence and influence of the spiritual shepherd are, in the school, it is much to be regretted if it be broken up or the work be declined, "when from any cause he ceases to superintend it personally."

Some of the Schools complain of discouragement from the want of teachers. It is sincerely hoped that suffering from this cause will be greatly diminished by the increased interest felt in the welfare of Sabbath Schools by our christian people. When the private members of the Church give themselves gratuitously, lovingly and humbly to the good work of Sabbath School teaching, we have one of the most healthful manifestations of life in the Church.

Universal experience has shewn that Sabbath School influences are an aid and a stimulus to the successful fulfilment of the duties of home christian education. While the children of the godless may be savingly benefitted by the teaching and guidance of true christians striving for their highest good, the Sabbath School Institution, when efficiently conducted, is highly valued by pious parents, as promotive of discipleship to Jesus. The objection that it interferes with parental obligations or leads to their neglect, is now seldom heard. When the existence of a School is so perverted, it may well be feared that without it things would be in a worse state.

It needs to be repeatedly urged that the necessarily limited religious instruction—communicated in our week-day Common Schools,—is a strong argument for the Church's zealously operating on the hearts and minds of those who are in the morning of life. It will require the harmonious co-operation of pastors, teachers and parents to obviate the evils to which the young are exposed and to instil into their souls the lessons which "the Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus" will bless, for enabling them to walk in wisdom's ways. Here again the responsibility of each of Zion's watchmen appears, to take heed, that so far as in him lies only "sound doctrine" and "the truth as it is in Jesus" shall be taught the little ones of the flock. Hence not only the Congregational Sabbath School, but any Sabbath School where the Christian Pastor has young members, calls for his vigilance.

Much benefit is derived from the systematic visiting of the scholars on the part of the teachers. The Committee are persuaded that there is room for vast improvement in this respect. In our circumstances we can scarcely look for District visitation; but that of the members of the Class on the part of the Sabbath School Teacher, is extremely desirable. A delicacy may be felt when, as sometimes happens, some of the parents of the scholars belong to other christian denominations; but if they have sent their children to any of our Sabbath Schools, it may fairly be presumed that they will gratefully receive and appreciate the visits of teachers who in the spirit of christian fidelity and affection, are seeking the spiritual

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