

Let me say, that to obtain this will cost honest, faithful work. It will require absolute sincerity, it will demand fairness and sympathy; but it is worth it all—if only we shall meet unshamed the pupils of to-day in the men and women of to-morrow. It will mean, above all, that Christ is our guide, and His Spirit our Teacher, and that for His sake the work is done. May we, who engage in this great work, keep ever in mind the solemn truth, that we are moulding human lives, and that the stamp of our personality and the impressions we create may remain as an abiding influence upon the character, for weal or woe!

Tansley, Ont.

The Tiny Bit

It is told of Brullov, a celebrated Russian painter who lived in the first half of the last century, that one day he corrected a pupil's study. When the pupil looked at the altered drawing he exclaimed, "Why you only touched it a tiny bit, but it is quite another thing!" "Art begins where the tiny bit begins," replied Brullov. This was Jesus' doctrine—faithfulness in that which is least.

The Child in the Midst

By Rev. R. J. Macpherson, B.D.

There is a great deal in our Saviour's life and in His teaching that makes the years of infancy, childhood and youth of very special interest to every Christian. In the very beginning is the beautiful scene of the manger of Bethlehem making hallowed forever the hours of earliest babyhood; and next, almost as wonderful, His presentation in the temple, when the little child of eight days was honored by his Father in heaven with the prophetic praises of the aged Anna and Simeon. Then comes His visit to Jerusalem at the age of twelve, when He surprised the learned doctors and lawyers, the scholars of Israel, with His marvelous questions and answers. Besides all this there is His untiring love for children, the happy days in His public ministry when He took them up in His arms and blessed them; the demand which He made upon all His disciples, and

repeated again and again, that they should be like little children; His teaching that His kingdom was a kingdom of such as these.

There is, then, so much in common between our Saviour and those whom we meet in the Sabbath School—the children—that meeting with them is all but meeting with Christ Himself. "Whoso shall receive one such little child in My name receiveth Me." This one hour on Sabbath afternoon brings before our memories many of the scenes which most endear Him to us, and carries us into the spirit of others which must have been among the pleasantest in the life of Him who had so much of sorrow and heart-pain to darken His days.

Nor is this all. The spirit of the child is the spirit of His true disciple; the spirit of the child is the spirit of the kingdom; the spirit of humility as exemplified in the child is the spirit which elevates to greatness in that kingdom. And it is here in the Sabbath School, above all places else, that we feel the contagion of the spirit; it is here especially that we see its beauties; it is here that we earnestly desire it. And here, too, it is imparted to us. It is difficult to say whether the child in receiving the tuition of the teacher, or the teacher in beholding and learning and imbibing the spirit of the child, receives the greater blessing. Here, away from the world with its pride, its falseness and its selfish competitions, there is not only one little one in the midst, but many all around him, from whom he may learn the spirit of simplicity and candor, of humility, of dependence and innocence. Thus he grows like the Saviour Himself, and fulfils the condition of an abundant entrance into His kingdom.

Cartwright, Man.

Praise in the Sabbath School

By Rev. John Stenhouse, M.D.

No school has so much to do in so short a time as the Sabbath School. Every minute of the quickly passing hour must, therefore, be used, either to arouse or sustain an interest in the great verities of the Lesson. Such being the case, both psalms and hymns should be made the medium of teaching, and they lend themselves to this purpose in many ways.