

The Teachers Monthly

Rev. R. Douglas Fraser, D.D., Editor
Rev. J. M. Duncan, D.D., Associate Editor

Vol. XIX.

Toronto, April, 1913

No. 4

To Reach the Standard

1913 was to be a year of distinct and definite improvement of our Sunday Schools.

The STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE approved by the General Assembly was given the first place in the first issue for the year, of the TEACHERS MONTHLY.

The attention of all the Schools was in this way drawn to the very modest minimum which the Standard represents.

Does your School measure up? If so, doubtless you are already planning as to what additional items of excellence you may attain to? There is even in the best School still "much land to be possessed."

If your School has not reached the Standard, in what particulars has it come short? Have minister and superintendent and teachers and officers sat down together to count these up and consider how the full measure may be reached?

The points of Excellence are every one worth while:—(1) *Open all the year?* Surely. It is quite possible in every case, and why not have it? (2) *A Cradle Roll?* The simplest thing in the world. Let us tell you how to manage it. (3) *A Home Department?* Workable everywhere, write us and we shall tell you how. (4) *An Organized Bible Class?* As small a number as three can form such an organization. (5) *A Teacher Training Class?* The textbooks are cheap—5c. each in the First Standard, 10c. each in Advanced Standard; and they can be studied if necessary without a teacher. (6) *A Communicants' Class?* Your minister or missionary will gladly take this up; or a superintendent or teacher can hold such a class. (7) *Graded Instruction?* We can provide you with the Graded Lessons, also with Supplemental Graded Work for the Uniform Lessons. (8) *Our own Lesson Helps and Illustrated Papers?*

We have a complete series of these, fitted to the needs of our own Schools' and church's work. (9) *Missionary Instruction and Offering?* The Question on Missions for each Sunday in the year, published in all our own Lesson Helps, gives interesting material, and there are all sorts of additional aids. (10) *An Offering for Rally Day Fund?* Rally Day is the former Children's Day, the last Sunday in September.

All the items of the Standard are within reach of the smallest School. Let no little School think there is anything here impossible for it to reach.

The great aim of the Sunday School, is, of course, to inculcate the scholars to Christ and to keep them in His love and train them in His service, but every item in the Standard of Excellence is a step towards doing this successfully.

The Master's Equation

There is a startling challenge in the Master's equation: forgiven-ness = forgiving-ness. The measure in which we forgive a brother man his offences against us to be the measure in which God forgives our offences against Him,—this is a saying of Jesus which probes the heart to its very depths.

The saying is all the more arresting when we take full account of His person and character who uttered it. He knew, as even the best of mere men can never know, what it means for God to forgive sin. In His own pure soul there was a repugnance against sin, a recoil from the falsehood and injustice and impurity everywhere obtruding upon Him its hateful presence which we can, at most, imperfectly and at a great distance appreciate. The reaction of a sinless nature against evil gave to Him a unique under-