

[FOR THE MISSIONARY RECORD.]

DEAR CHILDREN,—Having lately returned from a long journey to the West, I will give you some account of what I have seen and done during the time of my absence, which was from the 3rd of July to the 20th of August, during which period I travelled upwards of 9000 miles, mostly by free tickets, and visited many schools; also preached frequently, and gave lectures and addresses upon temperance and moral improvement.

I have usually visited six or seven Sunday-schools, and I made it my invariable practice to give a word of advice to all the children to whom I could have access.

Among the children addressed, I have seen and spoken to colored children in different places; also addressed their parents and teachers. And it is gratifying to learn that many who once were slaves in the U. S., are doing themselves honor, and are becoming useful members of society. It is hoped, that after what has been seen in Canada and in Siberia, the slave-holders will be convinced that the people of color *have souls*, and are worthy of a rank among the white population.

Dear young friends, I entreat you to guard against everything which is contrary to the rule left us by the Divine Saviour, in the vii. of St Matthew's gospel. Learn that excellent precept—“*All things that ye would that others should do to you, do ye even so to them.*” Also, keep in mind a short sentence which has been very useful to many, not only of the children, but of those who are in adult years—“*Thou God seest me.*” Should all take the advice of the Saviour, and remember that the eye of God is upon them continually, the result would be most excellent: no wars nor quarrelling would take place. If these most excellent rules were generally adopted, we should then witness what the angels expressed at the birth of the Saviour—“*Glory to God in the highest, peace on earth and good will to men.*”

THADDEUS OSGOOD.

Montreal, August 23, 1850.

TO SABBATH-SCHOOL TEACHERS.

THE EXISTING EVIL.

It has been a long lamented evil that so many of the children of our Sabbath Schools, about the age of fourteen years, slip away from amongst us—shake off the good influences which hang about them—break through the restraints of discipline, which we had hoped had grown into the strong bonds at least of habit,—and escaping altogether from our control, go back and walk no more with us. Alas! they have been found, after the lapse of a short period, walking in the counsel of the ungodly; standing in the way of sinners, and ultimately sitting in the seat of the scornful. They have been found, indeed, in the most pestilential dens of depravity, and sometimes even in the society of felons in the common jail. Many of the reasons which I have discovered working in the minds of elder scholars, have arisen directly or indirectly from the influence of unconverted teachers.—Sabbath School teachers are models for the scholars; they narrowly examine their dress, they listen attentively to the subject of their gossip, thus imbibing the same spirit! The girls learn to adorn themselves in all the finery within their reach, while both boys and girls, elated by an ambition to be like their teachers, begin to assume the airs which they have detected in their model; and, thinking themselves of too much importance to remain any longer with children, they leave the school. We may see them, perhaps for a short time attend public worship; indeed, they seem to have come to the conclusion, that they have learned all that can be taught them in the Sabbath School, and showing yet plainly by their conduct, that they have not learnt the things that belong to their everlasting peace. And what is the reason of this? It is just because they have not learned the truth, as it is in Jesus. On the contrary, had they learned of Him who was so meek and lowly of heart, they would exemplify in their conduct humility, gratitude and love: for the gospel is the only true bond of union. Having glanced at the cause of this evil, I will now consider what a Sabbath School Teacher ought to be. First, a Sabbath School Teacher should know the way to peace with God, through our Lord Jesus Christ,—should know