

THE QUALIFICATIONS OF THE IDEAL SABBATH SCHOOL TEACHER.

I. Personal Godliness.—As the main object of Sabbath School teaching is conversion, the essential qualification of the teacher is personal godliness. Only these who *know* the love of Christ can sincerely and confidently speak of that love to others.

II. A consistent walk and Conversation.—The main object of teaching both in the Public School and in the Sabbath School is not the communication of knowledge but the building up of character, and for this purpose, "example is better than precept." We teach not only by what we do and say, but to a far greater extent to what we are.

III. The Sabbath School Teacher must know thoroughly and familiarly the subject he wishes to teach. He must teach from a full mind and a clear understanding.—Nos. I and II may, in general, be taken for granted. There are few Sabbath School Teachers who do not possess these qualifications. The importance of III is not always appreciated, and yet there is no other characteristic or qualification which is so fundamental and essential.

(1) We can never convey into another mind nearly all of what we feel or know of any subject. There is always a large percentage of waste and loss in the act of transmission.

(2) What we really know we feel a strong inclination to teach. It is a law of human nature that there is an instinctive impulse to tell in some way our thoughts and emotions as soon as they become vivid and intense enough. "While I was musing the fire burned: then spake I with my tongue."

(3) Truth must be fully and clearly understood before it can be vividly felt; and it must be vividly felt by the teacher before it can be vividly felt by the pupil.

(4) When the subject is fully and familiarly known it leaves the teacher the full commands of his powers for the purpose of teaching. A teacher possesses a certain amount of energy and if part of this is employed in trying to think out the subject, just so much the less will be available for teaching it.

(5) And lastly, the ample knowledge of the teacher inspires the pupil with that confidence which every pupil should have in his teacher.

A HANDBOOK

of Sabbath School Management and Work,

Prepared for and recommended by the Committee on Sabbath Schools
of the Presbyterian Church in Canada,

By DAVID FOTHERINGHAM.

PRICE, 15 CENTS.

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This book is the property of the Committee and all profits from its sale go towards the scheme of Higher Religious Instruction.

I have read with pleasure the Hand-book on Sabbath School Management and Work by Inspector Fotheringham. Seldom have I seen so much that is really good compressed into so small a space. The book treats of the Sabbath School, its design, organization, and government, the classification of pupils, teaching, what it is and how to do it. There is a valuable chapter on the art of questioning, and another on teachers' meetings and how to make them profitable. Not the least valuable part of the book are several appendices, and amongst these a list of books, many of which should be in the hands of every Sabbath School-worker.

I can earnestly and confidently recommend the little book to all our Sabbath School teachers, feeling assured that after a careful perusal of it they will be much better qualified to discharge their important duties. THOMAS KIRKLAND, Principal Normal and Model Schools, Toronto.