

very sure, for somehow or other, when it is over, the managers can always see where mistakes have been made, but any little evil of this kind is always overbalanced by the accompanying good.

Our Sabbath School Picnic was successfully held this year on the beautiful grounds of Oakland, and was largely attended by friends of the school and members of the congregation generally. With the thermometer indicating 94 degrees in the shade, it is not difficult for those who have been uncertain, to make up their minds and fly for an afternoon from the city heat, and their attempts to reach a more enjoyable temperature on that afternoon was quite successful. The sail across the Bay, all too short as it was, was a delight in itself, and reduced at once the heated and possibly irritated individual, to a pleasant coolness and happy feeling of peace with all men, and especially with the weather, and to accomplish that on a 90 degree day is worth noticing. After landing, a shorter walk to the grove would have suited some of our guests better, but they all managed somehow to get over it, and once on the beautiful grounds, with friend meeting friend and grouping in social twos and threes, we leave the older members of our Picnic party to the full enjoyment of their outing.

Turning to those for whose special benefit the Picnic is held, the S. S. scholars, we find that they are with us in large numbers, and are having a merry time. All afternoon, apparently without flagging, something is going on to interest and amuse. The older boys are playing base ball with enthusiasm; the Maypole claims the attention of a large number of younger boys and girls, and the youngest of all are scrambling for candies and coppers.

By and by the bell rings and teachers get their baskets, and gathering their scholars around them, with laugh and merry chat, the good things provided so bountifully by the ladies of the church, are quickly and cheerfully put out of sight.

So the afternoon wears along, a round of pleasure to young and old, and when the time comes to get home again, the retreating crowds seem in the best of humor and apparently well pleased with their afternoon's enjoyment.

#### TO THE EDITOR:

It was thought that a little history of the picture presented to the Sabbath School by Mr. J. W. Bickle would be interesting to some of your readers. It represents the

young girls of No. 1 Bible Class, I think of the year 1865, and was presented to their teacher, Miss Bickle, at their annual Sunday School Picnic, which was generally held at the same place each year,—Col. Land's Bush. The address was written by Bella McDonald, (Mrs. Gayfer). Little did that merry group think that even then the shadow of a great sorrow was spreading itself over them. Almost at once their beloved teacher was laid aside from active work and after months of patient suffering, God called her home. Never can one of that class forget her anxiety for and personal interest in their eternal welfare. As nearly all the group have friends still connected with our church, we might add their names. Beginning with the top row, at the right, we have Nellie Harvey, Bella McDonald, Sarah Morris, Martha Howard, Emily Kilvington, Maria Chapman, Ella McDonald, Minnie Berry, Aggie Howard, Annie Donnelly, Clara Robbins, Frankie Dunnett, Mary Northey, Aggie Day, Ellen Kendall, Jennie Creech and Annie Crisp. Of these Mrs. Hugh Murray, Mrs. Joseph Ross, Mrs. Jas. Sage and Mrs. H. Gayfer still worship in the old church. Mrs. Herbert Martin, Mrs. James Bennett, Mrs. Eldon Bull and Mrs. Will Riddell still reside in the city, we have been able to keep track of all but two and although the picture is a quarter of a century old but two of the number have died, Sarah Morris (Mrs. Boron) sister of our present school superintendent and Frankie Dunnett, (Mrs. John Burt). As far as we can find not one of the class agreed with St. Paul's declaration that "She is happier if she so abide" but all believed that "it is not good for man to be alone," friendships were formed in that old class which have been life long and the many of to-day have many pleasant recollections of the girl friends of other days.

—ONE OF THE CLASS.

Y. P. S. C. E.

### Correspondence Department.

Edited by Mr. F. W. Hamilton.

#### KNOX CHURCH ITEMS. Y. P. S. C. E.

The members of the Y. P. S. C. E. are taking a deep interest in the work of the mission school on James St. North. A prayer meeting is conducted by them, assisted by other members of the congregation every Thursday evening, and a thorough canvas of the district is soon to be made for the purpose of extending the good work.