

# The Primary Quarterly

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## FOR THE LITTLE ONES

**I** KNOW that the eyes of the little ones are quick to see and therefore I have given them a picture for each lesson, so that even those who are too "wee" to read may learn a great deal for themselves about the lesson without any other help. But they will want to know *ali* about it; and I am sure that mothers, and fathers, too, as well as big brothers and sisters, will take pains to read the Bible story all through for them, and ask them the questions, and get them to commit to memory the Golden Text and the Hymn and the Catechism and to repeat,—“What I have learned to-day.”

The teachers of the little ones can do almost nothing without the mothers, and so in every line that goes into the PRIMARY QUARTERLY the mothers will be kept in view, and how they may best help the children to prepare their lessons for the Sabbath School. There is nothing that the teachers are more anxious about than to have the sympathy and co-operation of the mothers, and mothers find that the added interest which a bright Sabbath School and a bright teacher give to the lesson makes the mother's part easier.

This explains why room is made in the PRIMARY QUARTERLY for articles on child training, such as that of Mrs. Crawford in the present number. It is needless to say that child training cannot be accomplished merely by following set rules. It is, above all, a thing of the heart. The mother instinct is the surest guide, as is mother love the strongest motive. At the same time knowledge counts, the knowledge that comes from the study of the child and of the principles of teaching, and from the experience of others.

Life has perhaps never been more difficult than to-day. Our young people need to be of very strong moral fibre to resist the shock of abounding temptation, and the still more dangerous drift away from God and holiness in the current of worldliness, which seems to be increasing in swiftness and force. It behoves all

who have to do with their training to begin very early and to be very expert. The mothers of to-day can scarcely take too much pains to know all that is to be known about these little creatures—men and women in miniature—who are to be developed into the men and women that they ought to be, so largely by the mother's hand.

Arrangements have therefore been made for articles from time to time by mothers of experience and by skilled teachers, in which the various phases of the old, but ever new, question will be discussed, and it is hoped with great profit; how the home and the Sabbath School may best work together in giving the very little ones their foundation lessons in the blessed Word of God, and in leading them, even from tender years, to be true followers of the Lord Jesus.

R. DOUGLAS FRASER.

## A PRIMARY LESSON IN THE PULPIT

It was a very pleasant sight,—the ample and home-like church; a bank of palms and brilliant autumn flowers, covering the whole front of the pulpit-platform and reading-desks; the minister, whose very face betokened that it was a day of joy for him; and, in the choir-seats before the great organ, a score of sweet children. It was “Children's Day,” and, from the first word to the last, everything was for them. The older people were there, too, for it was at the hour of the regular morning service; but in this church, St. James' Square, Toronto, twice a year the children are invited to a service which is their very own.

“There's a friend for little children  
Above the bright blue sky;  
A Friend who never changeth,  
Whose love can never die.”

So sang the children, and the whole congregation with them; and then, the pastor leading, all joined heartily in the Scripture readings of the General Assembly's Children's Day service.

A prayer followed, short and simple, in which