

The Teacher's Monthly.

Vol. IV.

DECEMBER, 1898.

No. 12.

The Helps for this issue, and for the corresponding Lessons of the *Senior Quarterly*, have been prepared, in the order of their date, by Revs.,—R. Mackay, Hemmingford, A. E. Mitchell, Almonte; J. MacDougall, Holton; and H. Gracey, Gananoque.

This issue of the **TEACHERS' MONTHLY** is sent to press with thankfulness,—that the extra work and care of the year is in large measure past,—that in spite of initial and unforeseen difficulties, which almost threatened disaster, so large a measure of success has been granted,—that ministers have responded so readily and heartily with assistance in preparing the Helps,—and that superintendents and teachers have given such kindly welcome to them and kind words for them.

All payments for the S. S. Helps for 1898 should be sent to Rev. E. Scott, Montreal, and all correspondence, orders, and payments for S.S. Helps for 1899 to Rev. R. D. Fraser, 592 Markham St., Toronto.

When a visitor is suddenly called upon to make a Sunday-school talk, he thinks that he has nothing to say. But when he begins to talk, one thing suggests another, and he speaks longer than he intended and longer than the superintendent wishes, without, perhaps, having said anything worth hearing or remembering. Had he talked less he might have accomplished more. It is not easy to make a five minute speech; but a simple rule may be helpful. At the Phi Beta Kappa meeting—Harvard, Judge Hoar delights his audience with a five minute speech. It con-

tains "but one original idea clearly stated, and but one story well told." Herein is the philosophy of a good and brief talk. Give one idea and one story. Do not tell half a dozen stories, however good they may be. Too many plums are not palatable, even in pudding.—*S. S. World*.

The record book of every Christian's life has some pages in it that were written at the bidding of that severe teacher, Disappointment. Tears may have blotted and blurred the page at the time, but as we turn over that page now, and read it in the light of experience, we can write beneath it, "Thank God for these losses, they are everlasting gain. Thank God for these bereavements, they have saved my soul from being bereaved in Heaven." "All things work together for good to them that love God: to them who are the called according to His purpose."—Cuyler.

"The chief business of youth is not pleasure but character-building. A frivolous youth usually causes a fruitless life. Good times are bad when they are put in the place of life's serious business."

Equanimity of mind is the great catholicism of humanity. Let all who would have length of days, whatever may be their station in life, strive for an equable frame of mind.

"The superintendent who aims to do his full duty needs to be patient, prompt, progressive pleasant, polite, pushing, purposeful and prayerful."

A holy life has a voice; it speaks when the tongue is silent, and is either a constant attraction or a perpetual reproof.—Hinton.

As you learn, teach, as you get, give; as you receive, distribute.—C. H. Spurgeon.