

own more mature experiences. Because the child is gay and jolly we suspect that he has not the grace of God within him. As if the very same grace of God which makes me "go softly" as I remember my shortcomings and realize the tremendous responsibilities of living, will not make the child's light heart lighter still, as he gets a glimpse of the smiling face of the Father in heaven.

I remember, as a young pastor, a small boy of twelve coming to ask admission to the Lord's table. I was touched by his coming, but half afraid that he did not understand. But to all the questions I asked him—and I catechized him pretty thoroughly in Scripture and as to his own experience of forgiveness and love—he gave quite satisfactory answers. We knelt together in prayer. The little lad was evidently deeply affected. They were solemn vows which he was making. His eye revealed his heart, as we parted. I stood watching him from the door as he went. The boy was uppermost again. He had not gone many yards until he began whistling merrily. Every doubt in my mind vanished. Here was the genuine boy, and his love of God gave him a merry heart.

The Memorizing of Scripture

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I have pleasure in placing on record, as you desire, our experience in Crescent Street Sabbath School in regard to the memorizing of Scripture.

Following upon the Institute held in this city by the Rev. Dr. Worden, of Philadelphia, about two years ago, we decided to give more attention to the subject, and to devote several Sabbaths in each year to this work alone, leaving the lesson of the day to be briefly referred to on the succeeding Sabbath or added to the lesson for that day.

We have now had several "Recital days," as we call them, and our teachers agree that the work is well worthy of the prominence we give it.

We aim at having four recital days in each year, but have not so far attained to this.

We have, unfortunately, a two months' vacation (July and August). September finds one-half of our scholars still out of town, so that our session is late in attaining efficiency. Then, toward the end of the session, school examinations come on, and we cannot ask our scholars to undertake memorizing work at such a time. Consequently this work is necessarily confined within seven months; but even within this period we hope in the present session to have four recital days. The difficulty of interjecting so many will not apply to schools which are open and have a fair attendance all the year.

Taking advantage of the Christmas holidays, our last recital was on the first Sabbath of the new year. The teachers decided that it should be composed of "Selections from St. Matthew." Four Sabbaths in advance a small card was handed to every teacher and scholar. It was in the form of a bookmark, and contained on one side a suitable text of Scripture, and on the other, "Crescent Street Sabbath School, Montreal; Scripture Recital, January 7th, 1900. Selections from St. Matthew. Mr. ——'s class will recite Matthew 5, verses 1-16."

Notices reminding were given from the desk on the two Sabbaths previous, and the teachers asked to have a rehearsal in advance, if possible.

On the day appointed, the opening exercises were conducted as usual. The Primary school and Bible classes closed their doors, and the Intermediate school, composed of eighteen classes, after roll books had been marked and collection taken up, proceeded with the work of recital, class by class.

The passages selected ranged from ten to sixteen verses, according to the ability of the class or the nature of the passage. The recitals were called for in the order of the Scripture, care having previously been taken to have the boys and girls' classes alternate, and to have the younger scholars rehearse first.

The passage being announced, all present (parents included, for on this occasion they, too, are invited,) turn to the passage, and the