

some night on the Sea of Tiberias: "Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs"—thereby teaching Peter, and through him the Church in all ages, that the lambs of the flock were to be its especial care. I am of opinion that there is no organization that so thoroughly carries out that direction as the Sabbath School, and no congregation can be said to be doing Christ's work according to Christ's orders, unless it has a well organized Sabbath School. Take the Saviour's own words: "Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of heaven." That passage, and many others in God's Word, show the tender care which He had of the little children, and show also what He intended to be the clear duty of the Church regarding them. Now, the Church has no more right to hand over the entire training of its children to any man or any set of men, than Christian parents have to say to themselves, "I shall send my children to the Sabbath School, and then I have no further care or responsibility in the matter." Perhaps some present may be able to say, "Our congregation supports its Sabbath School;" but for my part, I never knew congregations do it. Generally speaking, you have to beg for teachers and beg for money. A friend of mine, the superintendent of a Sabbath School, was short of teachers and short of funds, and didn't know how his difficulties were to be overcome. So after laying the matter before God in prayer, he went one day and wrote on the slab in the vestibule of the church, on which the announcements of the congregation were usually written, "The Sabbath School of this church is dying for want of Christian sympathy." Well, next Sunday, when the people took their seats in church after reading this rather unusual intimation, there was a good deal of suppressed excitement, so much, indeed, that the minister could hardly preach or the congregation listen to his sermon. After the services were over, they asked my friend what he meant, and how it was that the Sabbath School was dying for lack of Christian sympathy. His reply was, "There is scarcely one of you ever comes to the school to see how it is conducted, and it is so hard to get teachers, that I have to turn three classes into one in order to get your children taught." His plan cured the evil, and to-day that school is one of the best I know of. Let us pray and labour that the time may come when all the Churches will show their active Christian sympathy with so important a part of its organization as the Sabbath School is. (Applause). How much sorrow would be saved in that way! How much power is wasted trying to reclaim children who have gone astray, when a very little effort was required to keep them from straying! How much easier it would be to keep the children in the fold, and turn the whole influence of their lives in the direction of good, than by carelessness or neglect to let them