

SUNDAY SCHOOL BARREL

for

TEACHERS

AND

YOUNG PEOPLE.

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Bringing our Sheaves with us.

The time for toil is past, and night has come—
The last and saddest of the harvest eves ;
Worn out with labor long and wearisome,
Drooping and faint, the reapers hasten home,
Each laden with his sheaves.

Least of the laborers, thy feet I gain,
Lord of the harvest ! and my spirit grieves
That I am burdened, not so much with grain,
As with a heaviness of heart and brain :—
Master, behold my sheaves !

Few, light, and worthless—yet their trifling
weight,
Through all my frame a weary aching leaves,
For long I struggled with my hapless fate,
And stayed and toiled till it was dark and
late,—
Yet these are all my sheaves !

Full well I know I have more tares than
wheat,—
Brambles and flowers, dry stalks and withered
leaves,
Wherefore I blush and weep, as at Thy feet
I kneel down reverently and repeat,
“ Master, behold my sheaves ! ”

I know these blossoms, clustering heavily,
With evening dew upon their folded leaves,
Can claim no value or utility,—
Therefore shall fragraney and beauty be
The glory of my sheaves.

So do I gather strength and hope anew ;
For well I know thy patient love perceives
Nor what I did, but what I strove to do, —
And though the full, ripe ears be sadly few,
Thou wilt accept my sheaves.

—Elizabeth Akers.

“Should Haves.”

A good Sunday-school superintendent should have two good feet like the two hands on a good clock. When it is ninety minutes after eight, they should point to 9.30 o'clock exactly, and not to ninety-five minutes past eight.

Should have two good eyes, or at least double as many eyes as mouths. Good order is gained much more quickly through the eye than the throat.

Should have two good ears. Illustrations are gathered more readily through that organ than the printed page. The pigeon-holes in the head should be systematically and continuously filled through these little doors opening thereto.

Should have one good, broad back, and he will have use for it all during the year. Pile upon pile will be laid upon it, until he will begin to think of himself as a second edition of that old man Atlas, whose picture used to adorn the cover of the geographies of our fathers' time.

Should have a quality and quantity of patience that would run over the top of the barrel that belonged to the ancient man of Uz. Like funds in a bank, it is sure to be drawn upon.

Should wear a smile born of genuine love, otherwise it will be an abortive effort, easily read by the weakest-eyed scholar in the school. A smile is the inner man speaking.

Should have a big stock of perseverance in carrying out plans. Many people have no vision that reaches from the beginning to the end. Perseverance, like killing a snake, frequently has our own preservation bound up in it. The head of the snake must be flattened.—
Bible Study.

To make our word or act sublime we must make it real. It is our system that counts, not the single or unsupported action. Use what language you will, you can never say anything but what you are.