



SUNDAY SCHOOL GUARDIAN.

TORONTO, NOVEMBER, 1848.

FALSE GODS OF THE HEATHEN.

Our youthful readers have heard a great deal about the idols of the heathen, their nature and number. But it will perhaps surprise them to hear of a temple containing not less than eighty thousand deities. Mr. INGALLS, on his return from the Kemmee Mountains, visited the old city where the Kings of Arracan have reigned for several hundred years. Having visited this ancient abode of royalty, he says,—“Among the ruins of this ancient city, one stands pre-eminent, the temple of eighty thousand gods. Before I visited it, I questioned whether so many idols could be collected in one building. Athens, in the proudest days of her idolatry, boasted only half as many. I entered the court fronting this idol house, and was soon convinced that the estimate of eighty thousand idols had not been exaggerated. This court was twenty-five paces square; of hewn stone and brick. Here were idols piled on idols, row above row; but broken and scattered in every direction, though as large as life and of the hardest stone. The spoiler had been there and done his work. This court fronts the strange idol temple. Here were arched halls of hewn stone, on three sides lined with idols; but attempt a description I cannot. I walked through some of these dark, desolate halls, and found that the bat had made it its home; and the noise and scent of this filthy inhabitant could but remind us of the doom of idols in the book of inspiration.”

DO SOMETHING FOR THE MISSION CAUSE.

It is really surprising how much little folks, as well as big ones; and poor folks as well as rich ones, can do, when they set themselves about it, for the holy cause of Missions. There is not a little boy or girl that reads this paper but can do something. Only set about it, and you will be able to give something at the approaching Missionary Meetings. Let me tell you what a poor old woman did in England. She was well known to be very needy indeed; and

could hardly get a living at all; but she offered to subscribe a penny a-week to the missionary fund. “Surely you,” said one, “are too poor for to do this.” She replied, “I spin so many hanks of yarn for a maintenance; I will spin one more, and that will be a penny for the society.” Well might the Rev. R. Watson, who related the circumstance, say, “I would rather see that hank suspended in the poor woman’s cottage, a token of her zeal for the triumph of the Gospel, than military trophies in the halls of heroes, the proud memorials of victories obtained over the physical strength of men.”

A LITTLE BOY PRAYING FOR HIS MOTHER.

We find in an exchange, the following touching and expressive illustration of the utility of Sabbath Schools. A little boy, taught in a Sabbath School, praying for his dying mother! O, how many little boys and girls have reason to thank God for Sabbath Schools! A Gentleman was not long since called upon to visit a dying female. On entering the humble cottage where she resided, he heard, in the adjoining room, an infant voice. He listened, and found it was the child of the poor dying woman engaged in prayer.

“O Lord, bless my poor mother,” said the little boy, “and prepare her to die. O God, I thank thee that I have been sent to a Sabbath School, and there have been taught to read my Bible, and there learned that when my father and mother forsake me, thou wilt take me up. This comforts me, now that my poor mother is going to leave me: may it comfort her, and may she go to heaven, and may I go there too, and pity my poor dear mother, and help me to say, Thy will be done.”

He ceased and the visitor opening the door, approached the bedside of this poor woman,

“Your child has been praying with you?”

“Yes,” said she, making an effort to rise, “he is a dear child. Thank God he has been sent to a Sunday School. I cannot read myself, but he has read that blessed book, the Bible, to me, and I hope I have reason to bless God for it. Yes, I have heard from him that I am a sinner; I have heard from him of Jesus Christ; and I do, as a poor sinner, put my trust in him; I hope he has forgiven me. I am going to die, but I am not afraid; my dear child has been the means of saving my soul. O, how thankful I am that he was sent to a Sunday School!”

SECOND ANNUAL EXAMINATION OF THE ORO SABBATH SCHOOL.

Oro, Nov. 3, 1848.

To the Editor of the Sunday School Guardian.

REV. SIR,—Knowing that you are always gratified at every success attending Sabbath School labours, and hoping it may prove interesting to the readers of your excellent Sabbath School periodical, we again lay at your disposal, a short account of the state and progress of the Oro W. M. Sabbath School, during the past year.

Through the help of our Heavenly Father, we have been enabled to continue the School during the whole of another year; and such was the attachment of the children to their Sabbath School, that even a considerable fall of snow would not prevent their attendance, some of the elder ones having been known to convey their younger brothers and sisters a distance of about half a mile through the snow in a hand-sled, on the Sabbath morning.

It gives us great pleasure to be again able to state, that although their number is not great, yet for good conduct they cannot be surpassed by any; and their diligence and attention to their lessons and the rules of the School, continue unabated; and several of them are also, what all Sabbath scholars should be, members of the Temperance Society.

The second annual examination was held on Sabbath, 29th October, by the Rev. Horace Dean, of Rama, when the children, after having recited a number of hymns, &c., were examined in the Catechism and Scriptural knowledge, in which they displayed great ability; after which an excellent discourse, suitable to the occasion, from 2 Tim., iii., 15, was delivered by Brother Dean, who also expressed great satisfaction at the manner in which they answered the various questions put to them. The following is a summary of the progress made during the year:

COMMITTED TO MEMORY.

Verses of Hymns	3,454
Verses of Scripture	13,196
Questions of Catechism with Proofs	4,559
Questions of Bible Biography	216

Number of Names 20.

Eight of the leading doctrines of Christianity having been given to the children to be proved from Scripture, 112 well-selected texts were produced by one scholar; 110 by a second, and 73 by a third.

We humbly hope and pray that the truths thus implanted in their tender minds may not be lost, but may yet be seen to bring forth fruit to the glory of God. Fearing we have already encroached on the limits of your excellent paper,

We remain, Rev. Sir,

Yours, respectfully,

WILLIAM FERGUSON.

T. A. FERGUSON.