

calculated to beget distrust in the mind of the scholar; for it is absolutely a difficult task to make a wild school-boy believe that any one is more than human. He is far more likely to bring into requisition, on such occasions as alluded to, his old stock of choice appellations, from which he will select a few for the special adoption of the teacher. The sociable teacher has succeeded best in all instances of my knowledge. But a distinction must be made between sociability and intimacy. The latter, being the opposite extreme of arrogant dignity, is equally dangerous. The influence of the teacher upon the mind of the youth is evidently acknowledged by all; while that of the farmer, the mechanic, and all with whom they associate, only by the few or more observing; hence the young teacher feels that his influence alone is to shape the future characters of the greater portion of the pupils, which becomes indeed a burden to the conscientious mind, and renders him less apt to discharge his duties to the pupil's greatest good, than he would did he view the matter in its true light.

W. C. M.  
Genoa, N. Y., 1860.

### WORKING TEACHERS.

"This is the working world in God's Universe," and we find in every sphere of action that nothing great or good can be accomplished without earnest, self-denying effort. Whoever assumes the responsibility of a teacher, should do so expecting to work. Not only during the time allotted to school exercises, but at all times and in all places, he is to have a mind awake, eagerly searching for truth; and a heart full of love for his particular calling.

First, there is a preparatory work.—However varied and extensive may be the knowledge of a teacher, a review, each day, of the lessons to be recited, is necessary, in order that incidents and illustrations that will be of benefit to the pupils, may be in mind at the time of recitation. Every teacher should also pursue some course of study, for in this way he will not only gain much useful information and discipline his mind, but also experience the difficulties of close study, and thus be better fitted to assign lessons to others.

Next, is the teaching work, which taxes both physical and mental powers. For instance, a teacher has a class numbering from twenty to thirty pupils to recite in half an hour. These are to be so questioned that the teacher can ascertain just the preparation each scholar has made for this recitation. Then he is to fix their opening minds with such new thought as will leave them hungering for more.—During the whole time, close attention is to be paid to the deportment of each pupil. And in order to discharge all these duties well, in so short a space of time, a teacher must work. In this manner several hours each day are spent.

There is also the general work. This includes numberless duties. Those who fill the responsible situation of Principal have a double portion to perform, having not only the government of pupils not directly their own, but what often requires more patience, the direction of oth-

er teachers. But we are so constituted that work is an element of our being, and therefore necessary for our happiness.—And though the calling of a teacher has peculiar trials, it has also peculiar joys. It is the general influence of the teacher which impresses his own character most deeply on the minds of his pupils.

And thus the working christian teacher will never lose his reward. He will find in the approval of his own conscience, the gratitude of his pupils, and the blessing of the Great Teacher.—*Connecticut School Journal.*

### SUPPORT YOUR TEACHER.

Yes, we say support your teacher. If a young gentleman or lady have been employed to teach your winter school, this is the more important, as such will need your influence. It may be their first attempt in baffling with the realities of the world. It may be the commencement of a bright career,—under your kindly guidance they may be laying the foundation of a character. How is it, parents, that you expect so much of a young, inexperienced teacher, having under his care from twenty to thirty bright-eyed, mischief-loving children, two of which you may yourselves find it hard to govern even at home? How inconsistent for you to expect perfection from one so frail? But how shall we support our teacher?—In several ways.

1st. Support him by your influence at home. If your children return from school, some afternoon, with the complaint that the teacher would not hear their lessons,—or that he had punished them too hard,—or some other wonderful news, be sure that it is really so before you blame the teacher, and thus encourage your children in disobedience. Listen to no petty complaints. Do not allow your children to speak disrespectfully of the teacher.

2nd. Aid him by your influence abroad. Always speak well of him, if you possibly can, especially before your children.—This will inspire reverence and love in their hearts for him, without which he teaches in vain.

3rd. Support him by your presence in the school room. Let him see that you are interested in the education of their children. Let him know that you wish to sustain him in his labor of love,—that, as far as you can, you will assist him in controlling the stubborn and uncontrollable. To these few remarks, add common sense in the treatment of your teacher, and he will fare well.

A. J. W.  
Elk Horn, Wis., 1860.

### HONOR THY FATHER AND THY MOTHER.

The Bible has many striking features, which show the impress of God's countenance upon its pages; and, among these, are its mirror-like reflections of the family relations and duties. This will be further illustrated by some remarks upon the obligation enjoined by the text, the propriety of the injunction, and the advantages secured by those who obey it. First, the injunction is expressed in one word, "Honor."

"Honor thy father and thy mother." This is not in respect to one, or a few things only. It does not relate to one period of life only, or to a limited portion of life, it relates to the dispositions and actions of all children, in every thing relating to their parents, at all times. A few particulars will be proper as guides to our thoughts.

1. Honor your parents by submitting to their authority. Or, as the apostle admonishes: obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Obey your parents in all things, for this is well pleasing to the Lord.

2. Honor your parents by your respectful deportment and language. Treat them with respect always. "Hearken unto thy father that begot thee, and despise not thy mother," says Solomon. Fearful threatenings are uttered by the wise man. Hear him.—"Thy eye that mocketh at his father, and despiseth to obey his mother, the ravens of the valley shall pick it out, and the young eagles shall eat it."

"Honor thy father and thy mother, that it may be well with thee, is the first command with promise," says the sacred Book. That child need not expect it will go well with him, while he continues to disobey and break his parents' hearts. Under the law disobedient children were stoned to death. The gospel of Christ does not require such a death; but if you have Christian parents who wish to keep you from temptation and ruin, and you will not obey, but break through all restraint, and do as you please, and cast off your duty to parents and to God, remember that tho' you may not be put to a shameful death here, yet "for all these things God will bring you into Judgment." If children could realize but a small portion of the anxiety their parents feel on their account, they would pay far greater respect to the paternal wishes. A good child, and one in whom confidence can be placed, is the one that does not allow himself to disobey his parents. There should be something sacred, something peculiar in the word that designates parents. The tone of voice in which they are addressed should be affectionate and respectful. A short, saily answer from a child, to a parent, falls very harshly on the ear of any person who has any idea of filial duty.

3. Honor your parents by doing all in your power to ease their daily burthens,—to soothe their sorrows, and smooth their passage to the tomb. Do you know the cause of your mother? Nobody loves you; nobody will love you as she does. Do not be ungrateful for that love; do not repay it with coldness, or a curse of coldness will rest upon you, which you can never shake off. Unloved and unhonored, you will live and die, if you do not honor your father and mother. Never forget the dear parents who loved and cherished you in your infant days. Ever treat them as you would wish you had done, when you stand a lonely orphan at their graves. How will the remembrance of kind affectionate conduct, toward these departed friends, then help to soothe your grief and heal your wounded hearts.—*Selected.*