

The Teachers Monthly

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The lantern is coming rapidly into use in the School, and the Sabbath School Committee of the Synod of Toronto and Kingston has undertaken to meet the demand, by supplying lanterns at close prices, also slides illustrating the Lesson and the Question on Missions for each Sunday. The slides, too, are furnished at the smallest possible margin of profit, namely at \$2.00 per dozen, to make it easy for Schools to obtain them. Mr. Frederick W. Moffat, Weston, Ont., has the matter in hand. Lists of slides are given month by month in EAST AND WEST and the church papers, and orders may be sent in from these lists. Sabbath Schools will do well to look into the new method of improving their work.

At the Stroke of the Hour

During the time when the Covenanters were being persecuted in Scotland, one of their ministers was, for many a long and weary day, shut up in prison. At last the joyful news was brought to him, that he would be set free at precisely twelve o'clock on a certain night. In his eagerness for liberty, he could hardly wait for the hour to strike. Lest he should be asleep when it came and the jailer should fail to rouse him, he kept awake all the earlier hours of the night.

Twelve o'clock struck, and the jailer came to the prisoner's cell, but urged him to remain till the morning, because the night was dark and stormy. The prisoner, however, refused, and went out into the darkness and storm. It was well he did so, for in a few hours a second order came revoking the one to let him go. Had he not seized the opportunity of leaving the prison as soon as it came, he would have languished within its walls, no one knows how long.

Not on every hour do such great issues as life or freedom hang. But there is no hour that does not bring some opportunity which must be improved then, or lost, it may be, forever. The eye must be keen to discover and the feet quick to enter, every open door, if we are to make the best and most of these fleeting lives.

On the Duty of Being Genial

By Rev. James Little, B.A.

One morning last summer, while I was visiting a medical friend, we were walking down the street, when we met a man on his way to business. My friend waved his hand and hailed him with a cheery, whole-souled, "Good morning, Jack". That evening Jack came into the office and said, "Doctor, I want to thank you for a very happy day. Before I met you this morning, everything had gone wrong. I had left my home angry with myself and with all the world. But the manner in which you bade me good morning banished the clouds, and I have been living in the sunshine ever since."

My medical friend is naturally of a genial temperament. His is what some one has called an "enjoying nature", and so perhaps he cannot claim too much credit for his cheerfulness. But what the above incident suggested was, Why should not those of us who are not by nature genial, look upon geniality as a duty, as a virtue which we ought to acquire, as much as truthfulness or self-control? But that, strange to say, is one of the last things we think of doing. There are countless Christians whose consciences, so far as the Ten Commandments are concerned, are almost morbidly sensitive. But that they