

twig and the tree. And so it is, thought I, with the human character. When we see the inebriate reeling along our streets, we may be almost certain that in childhood he contracted habits which have made him a drunkard. The gambler, the libertine, and the vicious had the seeds of vice sown in their tender hearts while children. So with the good, the honest and respected in our communities; whatever is lovely and of good report in their characters, is it not the result of early training?

Sunday-school teacher! with these facts staring you in the face, do you not realize the great importance of winding around the pliable hearts of the children committed to your care such truths and principles as shall make them honored, respected and loved when they shall have arrived at the years of maturity? Look upon that class of immortal souls who gather around you from Sabbath to Sabbath, and tell me, do you not tremble for their future? You do not see simply children, but future men and women, glorified saints, or wandering stars reserved for the blackness of darkness for ever. The character they shall bear in the future, almost, if not entirely, depends upon their training now. Oh what a fearful responsibility.

In your class is a bright-eyed boy, in whom, perhaps, you have detected traits which betoken a lack of strict honesty. You lightly pass them over, thinking he is only a child; he will learn better when he is older. What if you should live to see that boy incarcerated in a cell for crime? Might he not possibly charge his shame to your neglect?

Be diligent then. You cannot make yourself too intimately acquainted with the traits of character and habits of your scholars, nor too faithfully point out and warn them of that which is evil in its tendency, and strengthen that which is good. When you have done your whole duty in these particulars, you may safely leave results with God. Then, if evil influences counteract the good, and your teachings and warnings, together with the strivings of God's Spirit are unheeded, and any of them go down to ignominious graves, pangs of remorse for neglect of duty

towards them, will not be mingled in your cup of sorrow.

In this age of increasing vice and immorality, it becomes the imperative duty of every Christian to put forth every effort, bend every energy, to train up the rising race in the way they should go, so that the next generation may be such as God can approve; a God-loving, a God-fearing generation, hastening on the happy day when all shall know Him, from the least to the greatest.—S. N. World.

WATCHING UNTO PRAYER.

Two little boys from infancy
Had dearly lov'd each other,—
The children of one family,
Each was an only brother.

One night, as they retired to rest
Beneath a mother's care,—
In parting, she them both caress'd,
Without their evening prayer.

But Willie said, "O mother, stay,
And do not say good night!
Till you have listen'd while I pray,
I may not pray aright."

The mother said, "You know I must
Haste to the parlour dear;
The party waits, but you may trust
At morn I'll come and hear."

Soon all was dark and silent there,
Till, in a quiet tone,
A voice was heard, "We'll rise for prayer,
For we must pray alone."

"No, Willie, no!" the brother cried,
"The room is dark and cold."
"We won't stay long," the child replied,
"Each other's hands we'll hold."

"No, Willie, I'll remain in bed,
I cannot rise with you;
For mother knows what's best, and said,
The morning prayers will do."

"Ah, brother! we perhaps may die
Before the morning light;
We need the care of God, so I
Must pray for this to-night."

The door ajar the air was chill,
When Willie rose for prayer;
And on his knees, when all was still,
He ask'd our Fathers care.

The gentle boy then crept to bed,
With happier mind by far;
When touch'd his shivering brother said,
"How very cold you are!"

But Willie said, "I do not mind,
I am so happy now;
I grieve'd that you were left behind,
But I have pray'd for you."

"And now, if I should die to-night,
I would not be afraid;
I'd go to see a world more bright
Than all else God has made."