

The Teachers Monthly

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The *TEACHERS MONTHLY* offers greetings at the beginning of another New Year to its increasing circle of readers, wishing them "Grace, mercy, and peace, from God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord."

It will be the chief aim of the *TEACHERS MONTHLY* this year, as always, to help teachers to understand God's word better and to use it more effectively in reaching the minds and hearts and lives of their scholars.

Teachers will be glad to find the special series of articles on Teacher Training by Professor Walter C. Murray continued. They have excited very great interest, far beyond our own church and country. The General Assembly's Teacher Training Course will also go on from month to month in our columns, as well as the Course for Beginners. The interest in the Teachers Training Course is gratifying. It is not yet too late to take it up.

DEEP DIGGING

*By Professor J. E. McFadyen, B.A. (Oxon.),
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Every life that would be mighty must know what it is to muse. Every heart that would commune with God must throb with yearning and aspiration. There must be mysticism somewhere. But there must be more. The clear, cool water is not to be had for the wishing, but for the digging. With faith in the ground beneath our feet, we must dig down and down till the sweat stands upon our brow. Thus and only thus can we reach the water, and only thus do we deserve it.

This treasure, like many another, is hidden, and will only reveal itself to the man who bends his back to dig for it.

No great book, least of all, scripture, will yield up its secrets unless to the fierce persistence of the digger; for those secrets are hidden in the depths. We move airily across its chapters, when we should pause and assure ourselves that deep down are living waters, and brace ourselves resolutely to the patient search, without which those waters cannot all be ours. Surface meanings are for idle souls; the more patiently and prayerfully we search the depths, the more surely and abundantly shall we find that well of water which springeth up into everlasting life.

—In the Hour of Silence

AN ALERT TEACHER

A teacher in my Sunday School is noted for the variety and the helpfulness of her suggestions, as well as for some original methods in carrying forward her work. She has brought more helpful and suggestive thoughts to the teachers' meetings than any other teacher in the school. One day I said to her:

"Where do you get so many bright and helpful ideas regarding Sunday-school work? Are they all original with you?"

"Oh no, I am not so clever," she said in reply. "I get most of them from this."

As she spoke she took up a large scrap-book from a table near her and handed it to me. I opened it and found it full almost from cover to cover with clippings from Sunday-school periodicals, magazines, newspapers, and lesson leaflets. The clippings