

clare it is against your book to do so, and other great Christian nations not at war are making preparations for it and are in fear of being attacked? We, afar off, read and hear of your doings and beg you will keep your missionaries at home."

Take them to Church.

When Jesus was only twelve years old, he walked sixty-five miles in order to join the company of worshippers in the house of the Lord. Can we for one moment suppose that he would not have gone every Sabbath, if he had lived as near the church as we do? Yet we are falling into the error of imagining that the attendance of children upon the regular church service is not a matter of much importance. The pastor surveys the congregation on Sabbath morning, and mournfully notes the fact that few of the lambs of the flock are present. Parents fall into the easy habit of not getting the children ready for church, quieting an occasional doubt by saying to themselves, "I wish they could go, but the mornings are so short, and there is so much to do. Still they go to Sunday school regularly." And so the subject is dismissed. The superintendent of the Sabbath school also notes the absence of the children from church, but looks at it from another point of view, and perhaps accepts it as new proof of the importance of his own position.

The evil is a great one and needs a remedy. Public worship and a living ministry are divinely instituted. If we assume the responsibility of teaching our children to attend the Sabbath school and neglect the church, we take it for granted either that the school is the children's church, and the superintendent and the teacher are the children's pastors, or we cut the children off from privileges belonging to them by divine appointment, and take from the pastor, whom God has appointed, a portion of the flock of which God gave him the oversight. The Sunday school is not the children's church. It is no church at all, but a school, in which instruction is the main thing and worship is but incidental. God's plan is to have a place and an hour for worship, and to gather all the people for the express purpose of worship. The sermon indeed instructs, but even in the sermon the great object is not merely to inform, but to draw souls to God, to cultivate religious awe, devotion, a sense of the divine presence, sorrow for sin, trust in a present Saviour, joy in the Lord and in the hope of eternal life.

I am aware that a writer of lively imagination can so describe an ideal teacher as to make him altogether superior to the actual pastor; nevertheless that will not

change the divine order of things. The church is for the people, for all the people, rich and poor, "young men and maidens, old men and children," and he must be of a presumptuous spirit who dares to scatter this assembly, and say that God's messenger shall speak to a part of them only, when he delivers his message.

And direct intimations of God's plan are not lacking. He commanded his ancient people to assemble at least three times a year, from all parts of the land, for worship, and bring their little ones with them. The tabernacle was erected as a place for public worship. It is called, over and over again, "the tent of the congregation." The temple was designed to be a place of public worship; thither our Lord delighted to go with his disciples, and there the children cried, "Hosanna to the Son of David."

When we are Alone.

Sickness takes us aside and sets us alone with God. We are taken into His private chamber, and there He converses with us face to face. The world is afar off, our relish for it is gone, and we are alone with God. Many are the words of grace and truth which He then speaks to us. All our former props are struck away, and now we must lean on God alone. The things of earth are felt to be vanity; man's help useless. Man's sympathy deserts us; we are cast wholly upon God, that we may learn that His praise and His sympathy are enough. "If it were not for pain," says one, "I should spend less time with God. If I had not been kept awake with pain, I should have lost one of the sweetest experiences I ever had in my life. The disorder of my body is the very help I want from God; if it does its work before it lays me in the dust, it will raise me up in heaven."

NOTICES, ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, &c.

The Treasurer acknowledges receipt of the following sums during the month:—

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

St. John's Church, Halifax, Juvenile Miss. Society, for Trinidad.....	\$10 00
Miss McEwen, Charlottetown, P. E. Island.....	£1 10 0 5 00
Robt. Robertson, St. Peter's Road.....	0 12 3 2 04
St. Johns, New London.....	7 16 3 26 44
Bequest of late D. McEachran, West River.....	£1 10 0 5 00
A Friend.....	0 4 4 0 73
Brookfield, (Colchester) H. & F. Miss. Society.....	7 70
Friend of Missions.....	1 00
Mrs. John Logan, Widow, Truro.....	2 50
Friend, per Rev. J. Currie.....	2 00