

rest unfitted for the work. Now, what are the seven steps in a teacher's preparation? The Apostle here lays down the starting point, "Add to your faith." He never intimated that anybody should go into the great work of soul-saving and soul-feeding without faith. The unregenerate Sabbath School teacher is one of the most dangerous persons in any community. Would you think of trusting your boy and girl on the precipice of Niagara with a guide who is stone-blind? Surely we will not trust our boys and girls to walk a path fraught with infinitely greater perils than that at Niagara when the leader is blind, not knowing the first principles of the Gospel of Christ. "Add to your faith virtue." We have no single English word that fully expresses the meaning of the word here rendered virtue. One translates it by *courage*. A Sabbath School teacher must be a brave man or woman, brave enough to be loyal and true to God's Word no matter what anyone may say about it. Another has rendered it *fortitude*—that is, resolution, purpose. The teachers who are in their places just because they were dragged in by the superintendent ought to be kicked out. I don't believe in Sabbath School superintendents forcing people to teach Sabbath School classes. These young lives so plastic, so easily moulded, ought only to be trusted to men and women who believe they are there as God's servants to do a special work for Him. Then there is the thought of *endurance* in virtue, that is, the kind of life which persists until it realizes what is set before it as its ideal. We want a class of Sabbath School teachers who will teach because they believe God wants the work done, and who will stick to it fifty-two Sundays in the year. A teacher should be like the lighthouse keeper's boy in Norway who, when the father was unable to return, helped his sister by allowing her to stand upon his body while she held the light in the window. When his sister asked him, "Johnnie, does it hurt?" he would say, "Yes, Mary, it hurts, but keep the light there." "Add to virtue knowledge." You may have courage, resolution, endurance, but if you do not know the Word of God you have no business to try to teach other people. To-day we have so many helps of all sorts, that the teacher just reads off the question and the scholar reads off the answer, and they call that teaching. If that be the way to lead people to Christ we had better try to convert all the parrots in the country, because I think you might teach them the same way. (Hear, hear.) I know men and women teaching Sabbath School classes who can scarcely locate the books in the Bible, and as to quoting a dozen texts in the sacred Scriptures, they could not do it, and yet, forsooth, we trust them to teach our boys and girls the things that make for eternity. Some Sabbath School teaching reminds me of a story they tell of a colored preacher who could scarcely read. He had a class of boys who thought they would have a joke at his expense, so they pasted two leaves together, and he read about Adam's wife, "And she was"—and he turned over, and this was about the ark—"300 cubits long

and 50 cubits wide. And she was she anyway. And she was of the Scripture made." (Laughter.) The teacher must have seen a Sabbath School teacher with his boys. He cannot rule a body else. I know on the Sabbath School week. If you have business in the school about it, the boys are dancing teaching patience. Sabbath School patience. We get impatient. by day and less in England. The superintendent brought him. He was the w heart with the man. He was. After all, what boys or bad girls. They are only go right if you with him, because is the making to believe that in him. Add earnest consideration. boy's ideal is girl's ideal is about our mission who stand before eminently the School class. you have off seventy. Orjection unto that the spirit your names but because preaching and gentle rebuk