

enlisted for their temporal and eternal ruin. What an office of mercy, like that of guardian angels, is it to throw yourselves between these little immortals and destruction! With the spirit of your Master—a spirit which is never more lovely or efficient than when it warms the hearts and inspires the exertions of females—you may here diffuse an influence which will tell upon the records of other generations; you may accomplish purposes of mercy which will receive their proper distinction on the annals of eternity. A vast amount of the good which Sabbath schools are destined to bring about, must depend on female effort; and a portion of this good can be done by none but your sex. You are the very person to collect the little female wanderers into Sabbath schools, and there, under your instructions, may be commenced and deepened, impressions which will make both earth and heaven glad.

This influence of females in our world, imposes a responsibility deep and fearful; and motives of no ordinary character call upon your sex to exert it in favour of Christianity. To do this is a duty which you owe to God. His hand made you, and continues to sustain you. Year after year, in this dying world, it has held you up from the grave, and preserved you from falling into everlasting ruin. All your rich and distinguishing privileges are his gift. Every talent entrusted to your care, is the property of your Maker, God. He formed your intellect and strung your heart. He has opened before you, in this world of effort and of hope, a broad field of usefulness, and directed you to enter and labor for him. Yes, the command of Almighty God is on you. And this command is of no doubtful character; it is of no difficult interpretation. The God that made you, and bestowed upon you all your capacities for serving him and doing good, requires your hearts and lives. He enforces his claims by all the authority of his eternal Godhead. Here, then, settle this simple question; whether you will obey God or not. Before you rise from the perusal of this Tract, make the determination to devote your whole self to the cause of Jesus Christ; your time, your talents, your influence, your prayers, and your efforts; bring them all, as the widow did her "two mites," and cast them into the treasury of the Lord. Or, if you will not do this, then remember that you are God's creature, that you live in this world, and that you must soon die: and remember, that you may not cherish a Christian hope while you are living and dying with the claims of God unconcealed, and the command of God disobeyed.

POPULAR VIEW OF EDUCATION IN SCOTLAND.

The first thing that strikes an Englishman upon entering Scotland on an educational tour, is the noble appearance of the establishments dedicated to teaching. As soon as education becomes the theme of conversation, the animation and zeal with which the Scotch enter into the subject, prove to the stranger that it is one of their soul-absorbing studies; and, upon further investigation, he finds that it is not merely words and theories that engage their attention, but a vast practical system, carried out with a zeal and energy unknown in the greater part of England—not as an adjunct to a chapel or church, very well to be added if there is money enough for every other purpose, and dragged along as a burden, with a constant study of how little will maintain it; but as an integral part of Christianity, holding a high place in their affections, judgment, and heart; with a continual anxiety for its welfare and advancement. This solicitude for the progress of education is manifested by a liberality commensurate with the object contemplated: hence the character of the education imparted is very superior to that generally prevailing in England. These things have operated upon the mass of the population. They hearing continually from their pastors of the importance and value of education, and seeing by their actions they mean what they say, have imbibed the same spirit, and would rather undergo any hardships, and make any sacrifices themselves, than keep their children from school. The children are sent to school more regularly, and attend for a much longer period than the majority do with us. Another feature that stands out in relief, is, the religious character of the education imparted. The master of the school is not left alone in this great work; his hands are held up by the Scottish pastor, who, feeling a lively interest in the instruction of youth, leaves his manse and trudges

over mountain and glen, to visit the school, not as a spectator merely, but for the purpose of imparting religious information. The fruit of this is delightfully evinced by the affectionate esteem displayed by the children when the minister is spoken of; and the contrast is again manifest when you come into closer contact with the children. When crossing Ben Lomond and Ben Ledi, I had frequent occasion to take a boy as a guide, generally the child of a field-labourer, or shepherd; and not unfrequently did I find that the rudiments of learning were passed, and some of them were progressing with the mathematics, Latin, and Greek. One of my guides, a barefooted, ragged boy, not ten years of age, I found had got as far in mathematics as the cube root. Their Scripture knowledge also was extensive. The leading features of Scottish history and church history were deeply engraved on their hearts; and so solid a foundation had been laid in the earlier stages through their regular and constant attendance, and the quality of the instruction imparted, that the progress now was delightfully rapid. The effect of superior moral culture was very visible. Respect for superiors, politeness when spoken to by strangers, contentedness in their sphere, and deep love for their teachers, were not the least prominent characteristics. The tone of the education being good, and the value of it deeply felt, we were not surprised to find the parents willing to make sacrifices in paying for the children's schooling, which varies from 5s. to 10s. a quarter, and even higher, amongst a population of labourers and shepherds. Bright, indeed, will be the dawn of that day in England when such a spirit and such activity are manifested by the pastors and leading men in our congregations, and when the value of education is thus appreciated by the parents; then we shall find crime decrease, and a spirit of happiness and contentment reigning all around.—*English Tourist.*

THE MICROSCOPE AND ITS REVELATIONS.

Wherever we turn, within the precincts of our own homes, in meadow or moorland, hill or forest, by the lone sea-shore, or amidst crumbling ruins—fresh objects of interest are constantly to be found; plants and animals unknown to our unaided vision, with minute organs perfectly adapted to their necessities; with appetites as keen, enjoyments as perfect, as our own. In the purest waters, as well as in thick, acid, and saline fluids, of the most indifferent climates,—in springs, rivers, lakes and seas,—often in the internal humidity of living plants and animals, even in great numbers in the living human body—nay, probably, carried about in the aqueous vapors and dust of the whole atmosphere,—there is a world of minute, living, organized beings, imperceptible to the ordinary senses of man. In the daily course of life, this immense mysterious kingdom of diminutive living beings is unnoticed and disregarded; but it appears great and astonishing, beyond all expectation, to the retired observer who views it by the aid of the microscope. In every drop of standing water, he very frequently, though not always, sees by its aid rapidly moving bodies, from 1-96 to less than 1-2000 of a line in diameter, which are often so crowded together, that the intervals between them are less than their diameter. If we assume the size of the drop of water to be one cubic line, and the intervals, though they are often smaller, to be equal to the diameter of the bodies, we may easily calculate, without exaggeration, that such a drop is inhabited by from one hundred thousand to one thousand millions of such animalcules; in fact we must come to the conclusion, that a single drop of water, under such circumstances, contains more inhabitants than there are individuals of the human race upon our planet. If, further, we reflect on the amount of life in a large quantity of water, in a ditch or pond, for example,—or if we calculate that, according to many observers of the sea, and especially of its phosphorescence, vast tracts of the ocean periodically exhibit a similar development of masses of microscopic organized bodies,—even if we assume much greater intervals—we have numbers and relations of creatures living on the earth, invisible to the naked eye, at the very thought of which the mind is lost in wonder and admiration. It is the microscope alone which has enabled close observers of nature to unveil such a world of her diminutive creation, just as it was the art of making good telescopes which first opened to their view the boundless variety, and all the wonders of the starry firmament.—*Microscopic Manipulation.*