

of Nazareth." He was mistaken in his idea of duty, but there was hope for him, because he never did violence to conscience. The same reverence for the authority of conscience which made him a persecutor, impelled him, when his conscience was enlightened and rightly directed, to be equally earnest in preaching his new faith.

Another feature of Saul's character was his courage. As soon as God called him to preach among the Gentiles, nothing could deter him from beginning his work. "Immediately," he said, "I conferred not with flesh and blood." He was not the man to wait for the support of influential friends or to be frightened by the threats of powerful enemies. From the day of his arrest on the way to Damascus until the day of his martyr's death at Rome, no peril could daunt him or prevent him from preaching Christ.

There is always work in the world for men who have the purity, the conscientiousness and the courage of Saul. Soon or late, every such man will hear the call to some task for God. Happy will he be, if, when the call comes, he is "not disobedient to the heavenly vision."

TEACHER TRAINING

By Professor Walter C. Murray

IV.—INATTENTION

There are at least three kinds of inattention. Some children are so quickwitted that they cannot wait to examine anything carefully or to hear the end of any story. They give good attention for a moment but cannot sustain it. There are so many other things to see, hear, and touch, that they must be off. The Butterfly attention is characteristic of young children. It is a sign of excessive vitality, and though trying to the teacher, is not incurable.

Then, there is the inattention of the boy who hates study, Sunday School lessons, tasks of any kind, but who is passionately fond of games, of animals, of outdoor rambles, of tales of adventure. This boy, though intensely interested in some things, has no interest in others. He is capable of long flights of sustained attention to certain things. He will spend hours in trying to

make a toy work, or in teaching a dog tricks, or in searching for a bird's nest; but when his lessons are before him, he wanders off to green fields and shady nooks. The body is present, the mind is absent.

Then there is the lazy boy. He is too indolent to attend to anything. He is always weary. His friends tell him that he is born tired, and he is quite resigned. If left to himself, Fat-boy drops off to sleep, unless he happens to be eating.

Now, how are we to treat these kinds of inattention? The Butterfly, we can attract, but cannot hold. The Absent-minded, we might hold if we could attract. The Fat-boy, we can neither attract nor hold. He falls asleep.

Master Absent-minded is the most common. His inattention is due to want of training. All that is necessary is to get him interested in what you are teaching. Then his habit of preoccupation takes charge of him and he continues attending. But how interest him in his studies? Find out what interests him and then connect this interest. For example, the story of Elijah and the ravens becomes very interesting to him, if he takes delight in birds. If he revels in adventures, the lives of Jonathan and David fascinate him, if the teacher is always careful to make prominent the adventure side of the story. These are but suggestions. If the teacher knows his boy and is skilful, he can find something in almost every lesson to attract the boy's attention, and then everything depends upon his skill in leading the boy into the new, without letting him feel that he has lost touch with his old interests.

Of course, the teacher in the Sunday School cannot expect to succeed invariably. The Absent-minded cannot be cured by one lesson a week. Even the teacher in the Public School, who has not only twenty-five times as many opportunities, but many more means at his disposal, is often baffled. When Absent-minded's thoughts run to play, the parent or Public School teacher can make play a task, until it becomes less pleasant than work. Or, if the boy devotes his attention to caricatures, for example, instead of his work, he can be given plenty of exercises in drawing. This will either cure him or