



ESTIE'S GHOST.

They had not intended to stay out in the Short Hills so long, but the spring sunshine was bright and warm, and the first thing they knew, down went Mr. Sun behind a hill-top, and lo! right away it was twilight.

"Ho! forward march!" cried Heinrich. He was the tallest of the five children, and mother had put him in command of the party. "We must get out of this," said Captain Heinrich, and he put them all in line of march, single file.

But before they came in sight of the village Estie stopped short and hung back.

"I see a ghost," she whispered.

"A ghost indeed!" said Heinrich, laughing; "there aren't any ghosts, baby."

"But what is that old white thing?" asked Estie, her two feet planted firmly in her tracks.

Nobody could say just what it was, but Jonathan, who was a whole year younger than Estie, started boldly ahead. "I'm doin' home," he answered, "an' if I sees a dhost, I'll dive him some flowers, an' den he won't hurt me."

They couldn't let Johnny go home alone,

so they all followed, even Estie, hanging back and hiding her eyes.

It wasn't a ghost of course, because, you know, there are no ghosts; it was only a white cow lying across the path chewing her cud."

But mamma said when they all got home, that Johnny's plan was a very fine one, and that all along the path of life, if we would give flowers and gentle words and kindness to the bugbears we met, they would be very likely to prove as peaceful as Farmer Clark's old white cow.

PERSONAL EFFORT.

The Sabbath-school teacher should not feel as though he had done his whole duty by simply going through his routine of work during the Sabbath-school hour. It is certainly necessary and beneficial to do this faithfully and well; but unless it is followed up by earnest personal effort with individual members of the class during the week, a great blessing will be lost.

Become acquainted with your scholars, and show an interest in their welfare. If one or more of them are absent from the school, make it a point to find out the

reason for it before next Sabbath. They may, perhaps, be sick, and a friendly visit from the teacher may do much good and be highly appreciated. Or they may have become much discouraged from some reason or other, and your visit to them may be the means of bringing them light, hope, and joy.

Perhaps some of your class are becoming careless and indifferent; they are not very punctual in their attendance, and their lessons are not well learned. A visit to them is certainly in place, and you may succeed in arousing their interest anew in their work. Still better it would be under such circumstances to meet with the whole class some evening to look over the lesson with them, and to show them how to study and become interested in the Word of God.

What opportunities for good such occasions present. Teacher and scholars become acquainted with, and learn to feel an interest for, each other. An interest is created in the study of the Bible, and the teacher finds opportune moments when a word spoken for Christ may lead some unconverted one to God.

Let us then watch for opportunities to do good, and improve them. If we work with the spirit of Christ and with a love for souls, the Master will bless our efforts to the good of those around us, our own souls will be watered, and we shall reap a rich reward in the kingdom of God.

WHAT IF YOU ARE LITTLE ?

Little people and little things have often been used to do great good. This big world is made up of little grains of sand; the great sea is composed of small drops of water; the little bee, which you no doubt have watched humming about the flowers in your garden, little by little gathers much honey.

So do not be discouraged, children, because you are little, nor talk only of doing this or that when you are big. A little star shines brightly away up in the sky on a dark night, and yet it may be the means of saving many seamen from shipwreck; and little Christians may do a great deal of good in the world if they try.

Baxter became a Christian when a mere child; Polycarp was converted at nine, Matthew Henry at eleven, Robert Hall at twelve; Spurgeon joined the church at fifteen, was preaching at seventeen, and he testified that of the multitude of children he had received into the church none had become backsliders.

In heaven God's will is done instantly, submissively, rejoicingly, unquestioningly. The angels are ministers of his that do his pleasure! What a good definition that would be of Christian workers!