

The Teachers Monthly

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The new plan for the Memory Verses is likely to make them still more popular. Instead of following in the line of the International Lessons as heretofore, the verses are now arranged as follows:—List I.—For those who cannot read; List II.—For those under ten, a pretty Certificate in colors being given for the recitation of these; List III.—For those ten and over, a Three Years' Course of carefully selected passages, a handsome Diploma in colors being given for the recitation of the verses of the First Year, a red Seal for those of the Second, and a golden Seal for those of the Third Year. The passages in all three lists will remain the same from year to year. The folder containing the Lists costs 50c. per 100. Talk this over in your school, and send to us for sample copy of folder. Scholars will undertake the systematic memorizing of Scripture eagerly.

PERSONAL WORK

By Rev. G. C. Pidgeon, B.D.

In every enterprise where success depends on moving men, personal effort is the deciding factor. It has been said that almost every convert in China has been led to confess Christ by personal appeal. The most successful evangelists are those who so thoroughly organize their work that everyone moved by the sermon is dealt with personally, and helped to immediate decision.

Nothing can so impoverish a church as to leave its work in the hands of a few, and nothing will make its religion so shallow as dependence on public gatherings alone. In saving men and moulding character the chief factor is personal work by the many.

Every believer should engage in this work; and there is a work for each to do that can be done by no other. The mother influences one side of a boy's life, the father another; his teacher touches him at one point, his companions at another point. The father cannot do the mother's part, nor can his pastor or teacher wield the peculiar influence that belongs to his chums. In fact, our influence over our acquaintances is peculiar to ourselves. It may be that we hold the strategic position from which only the soul can be won.

Personal effort should follow up all other work. The Sabbath school teacher should clinch his teaching by a conversation with each scholar. The preacher should back his appeal to the many by pleading with individuals. The message delivered face to face cannot be fitted to someone else. Then, too, the peculiar condition of each soul may be discovered, and the special truth or treatment it requires may be given. It often happens, that all that an anxious one needs is a little personal instruction and influence, to lead him to commit himself definitely to Christ.

Christians shrink from this work. Much of this timidity is due to cowardice, of which we would be ashamed in any other connection. Or we may feel that we are unqualified for it. Here two things need to be remembered. First, we are not to save these people; we are only to lead them to the Saviour. Your faith can admit Christ's power to another soul. When the four men brought the paralytic to Christ, it was *their* faith, as well as that of the poor sufferer, that brought the healing. Accompany per-