

PASTORAL WORK.

Such, in my judgment, are the principal essentials to success so far as public ministrations are concerned. But the work of the pastor, of the Protestant pastor, is private as well as public, and no man can attain what is truly success in the eye of the Master, unless he well fulfils the functions of the Shepherd as well as the teacher. The great Apostle taught in public and from house to house. The chief Shepherd speaks of calling the sheep by name. The pastor's influence lies largely with the families of his flock, and specially with the children, and young men and women. The Sunday school is now the recognized instrument by which the Church acts upon the young, but the formative mind and influencing principle of every school should undoubtedly be the Minister of the church. His thoughts, his methods should be found in operation there, and the school should be but another portion of the field in which he labors. In the one he labors directly, in the other no less efficiently, practically and powerfully, that it is through the medium of teachers and their classes. But I strongly hold to the idea of the pastor having influence in the homes of his flock, of a direct spiritual character. While far from divesting himself of social attributes, the true pastor will be to all his flock, men, women and children, old or young, rich or poor, a guide, philosopher, and friend.

GENERAL REMARKS.

In all the work of the ministry, as in all other departments of life, three prime qualities are essential, viz., *industry, common-sense, perseverance*. There is no doubt that in entering on the active work of the ministry some men are sorely tempted to be idle. All men are apt to work only as they are compelled to work. The only thing that a minister must do is to read prayers and preach on Sundays, and keep his week day appointments. Almost everything else he can neglect if he will. And some ministers in some parts of the world do so; falling into a dreamy, dazy kind of existence, reading the newspapers, magazines and new books that come out, lying on the sofa to do it, neglecting preparation till about nine o'clock on Saturday evening, and trusting to get through Sunday by drawing upon college stores. An officer of a church once said to a friend that the stipend of their pastor was at the rate of about ten thousand dollars a year. As the congregation was anything but rich, the remark excited astonishment, but was explained by saying "the salary in reality is fifteen hundred dollars,

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