

prepared to teach the loving lessons which the death of our Lord Jesus Christ proposes.

Mr. Spurgeon, not very long before his death, speaking at a Bible Society meeting in London, told of a godly but somewhat illiterate man going into a bookstore and asking for a "reverence Bible"—he meant, of course, a *reference* Bible. "But," said Mr. Spurgeon, "was he far astray?—should not every Bible be a reverence Bible?"

"More and more," said this greatest preacher in Christendom, "as the years go by, I reverence the Bible; I say, in Scripture words, 'I stand in awe of Thy Word.'"

Oh, sir and friends, let us so honor God's Book, for it is His, and His with all its ancient power.

A word in conclusion about the aims of Sabbath School teachers. They need a definite aim—nothing less than a clearly defined purpose will serve them. If they aim at nothing, they will get nothing, and they deserve nothing. Without having a loving purpose burning in their bosom, and a blessed object and end blazing bright before the eye of their mind, they will talk without teaching; they will be like one shooting arrows in the air, or like one tracing letters upon the sand.

Here we are as a convention, representing many Churches, and heartily united in the Sabbath School work, do we not illustrate this thought, viz., That a gentler spirit prevails in the Church to-day than in the past? The Church has learned that to save one man's soul it is not necessary to break a lance against another man's creed. The Sabbath School must be credited with a large share of this transformation. The Church, coming up with battered armor from the battles of the Reformation, was met by her Lord, who said, "Lay aside now your coat of mail; I would have you carry and take care of something that never could rest or grow in an iron-covered breast." And then He put the Sabbath School into her arms. The Church is not now so much a warrior as a mother; and better than ever is her prospect of ruling the world, because she is now rocking the cradle. With the disappearance of the war spirit arose the work spirit; and as Christian work is ever a priceless means of grace and growth, the Sabbath School has been of unspeakable benefit to the Church in rousing an enthusiasm for work which is itself an inspiration, and furnishes for the outlay of that enthusiasm a most inviting field. May this Christian work, or consecrated activity, increase this year in all our Sabbath Schools!

Singing—"I've reached the land of corn and wine."

Mr. McCREA.—While we are waiting for the Executive Committee, I am going to ask the Rev. F. A. Cassidy, a returned missionary from Japan, to say a few words to us.

Rev. Mr. CASSIDY said: I have only time to-night to tell you that we are struggling with the same problem of teaching the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ to the millions of Japan. We find plenty of dis-