

WATCHWORDS OF EMPIRE.**A CLASS EXERCISE FOR EMPIRE DAY.**

[The usefulness of this exercise will be increased if the pupils are allowed to find the material themselves. Some time before Empire Day have a little talk with your older pupils on the words: Responsibility — Duty — Sympathy — Self-sacrifice. Ask them to find in their histories or readers stories that illustrate these words, and also quotations from great writers that bear on them. Have these brought to the next history lesson; select the most suitable illustrations, and for composition work have them written out in simple words. Correct and arrange these in some such way as in the ready made exercise given below. If you prefer to use this, it may be abridged or expanded, and appropriate songs or recitations may be introduced.

The questions may be asked by the teacher, or by a senior boy or girl. The whole school may take part in the answers.]

QUESTION. Why do we observe Empire Day?

SCHOOL. We observe Empire Day to remind ourselves of our duty to the Empire.

Q. What are the watchwords of Empire?

S. The watchwords of Empire are, Responsibility — Duty — Sympathy — Self-sacrifice.

Q. How can we remind ourselves of these things?

S. We can remind ourselves of these things by studying the lives of men and women who have made the Empire great.

Q. That is true. Now, let us hear what you have learned about some men and women who have taken these words for their watchwords in serving the Empire.

[The questioner may call upon different pupils by name, or each may rise to recite in order, as arranged beforehand.]

Boy. I think that Nelson must have taken duty for his watchword. Before the battle of Trafalgar, he sent out the famous signal, "England expects every man to do his duty." And when the battle was won, and he was dying in great pain, he said over and over again, "Thank God, I have done my duty." These were his last words.

Boy. Lord Nelson's last words make me think of another great sailor, Sir Richard Grenville. He lived in Queen Elizabeth's time, when Spain was trying to conquer England. With his little ship, the "Revenge," he fought for a day and a night against fifty-three Spanish ships. He was mortally wounded and taken prisoner, and when he was dying, he said, "I have only done my duty, as a man is bound to do."

TEACHER. Can any one give an illustration from Canadian history?

Boy. General Wolfe must have thought only of his duty to his country and not of glory or gain for himself, nor even of his own comfort. He roused himself from his dying sleep to give an order which would make victory sure. And though he was young and had much to live for, his last words were, "Now God be praised, I die in peace."

Q. Have our poets said anything about duty to our country?

GIRL. Yes, indeed, and their words may help us to remember it. Longfellow says,

Honour to those whose words or deeds,
Thus help us in our daily needs."

and Tennyson wrote,

The song that nerves a nation's heart,
Is in itself a deed.

Q. Let us hear what some of them have said.

Boy. Tennyson, in his poem on the Duke of Wellington, said,

Let all good things await
Him who cares not to be great,
But as he saves or saves the state.

and

Let his great example stand
Colossal, seen in every land,
And keep the soldier brave, the statesman pure,
Till in all lands and through all human story,
The path of duty be the way to glory.

Boy. Shakespeare says,—“Let all the ends thou aimst at, be thy Country's, thy God's and Truth's.

And a modern poet, Henry Newbolt, says,—
O Sons of England! Duty is England's Morning Star.

GIRL. Robert Browning makes us realize our responsibility in his poem, "Home Thoughts from Abroad." The sight of Trafalgar and Cadiz Bay, where Britons had fought so bravely, made him think, "Here and here doth England help me. How can I help England?"

GIRL. Some writers have shown their sense of responsibility and their sympathy by using their pens to tell others about wrong-doing that ought to be put right. Mrs. Browning, Robert Browning's wife, was one of these. She knew that many little children in England were worked cruelly hard in factories and mines, and she wrote a beautiful poem about them, called "The Cry of the Children," beginning,