

## LESSONS IN ZOOLOGY.

## "POLITENESS."

A little brown bird sat on the twig of a tree  
 A-swinging and singing as glad as could be,  
 And shaking his tail and smoothing his dress,  
 And having such fun as you never could  
 guess.

And when he had finished his gay little song,  
 He flew down in the street and went hopping  
 along,  
 This way and that way with both little feet,  
 While his sharp little eyes looked for some-  
 thing to eat.

A little boy said to him: "Little bird, stop!  
 And tell me the reason why you go with a  
 hop,  
 Why don't you walk as boys do and men,  
 One foot at a time like a duck or a hen?"

Then the little bird went with a hop, hop,  
 hop,  
 And he laughed, and he laughed, as he never  
 would stop.  
 And he said: "Little boy, there are some  
 birds that talk,  
 And some birds that hop, and some birds that  
 walk.

"Use your eyes little boy, watch closely and  
 see  
 What little birds hop with both feet just like  
 me;  
 And what little birds walk like the duck and  
 the hen;  
 And when you know that, you'll know more  
 than some men.

"Every bird that can scratch in the dirt can  
 walk;  
 Every bird that can wade in the water can  
 walk;  
 Every bird that has claws to scratch with can  
 walk;  
 One foot at a time, that is the way that they  
 walk.

"But most little birds that can sing you a  
 song  
 Are so small that their legs are not very  
 strong  
 To scratch with, to wade with, or catch  
 things. That's why  
 They hop with both feet. They all know  
 how to fly!

"I've many relations, and each one of them  
 sings;  
 We're called Warblers and Preachers, and  
 other sweet things.  
 And whenever you meet them while out at  
 your play.  
 You'll see what I told you is true. Little  
 boy, good-day." — *The Kindergarten.*

Essay read by Arnold G. Schooley, at F. D. S.  
 Association of Genesee V. M., held in Yarmouth in  
 6th mo. 1897.

While this may not sound as just the  
 subject for a Sabbath-School essay, I  
 will endeavor to convince you that it is  
 a subject that will bear looking into.  
 Not only will it affect our everyday  
 life, but it will be of great use in the  
 Sabbath School, for if we possess  
 politeness, arising from kindness of  
 heart, we will be anxious not to intrude  
 our own private opinions upon others,  
 or even our religious views as better  
 than theirs, remembering it is not a  
 belief that will save us, but a perform-  
 ance of known duties, and each one has  
 a right to judge of this duty for himself.

In the family and in our mingling  
 with the outside world will we find  
 politeness of great importance.

Somebody says, and says truly, that  
 there are few families where love is not  
 abused. A husband, or father, or  
 brother, will speak harsh words to those  
 he loves best, because the secrecy of  
 family pride will prevent it being told  
 against him, and it is a shame that a  
 man will speak more impolitely to his  
 wife or sister than he would to any  
 other woman.

These things ought not to be so.  
 The man, who, because it will not be  
 resented, inflicts his bad temper upon  
 those of his own household, is a small  
 coward and a very mean man.

Kind words are mediums between  
 true gentlemen and ladies at home,  
 and no polish exhibited in society can  
 atone for the harsh language and  
 disrespectful treatment too often in-  
 dulgued in between those bound to-  
 gether by ties of blood and the most  
 sacred bonds of love.

In mingling with the outside world,  
 if we lack politeness how soon we find  
 ourselves shunned and others preferred  
 before us. Did you ever see boys or  
 girls eat fast, slam doors, rush through  
 a room, talk loud, swing their arms,  
 bow stiffly, never offer older people a  
 seat, make faces, say careless things.