

kindergarten we find one harmonious, united family life. Here they sing good-morning songs, and stories of mother nature, sacred history, and sweet messages from God's own word are stored in memory. There are many happy games and songs where symbolism of nature is carried out. Thus a living sympathy with nature is established, and the children are led to see the true beauty in the world and in a life of purity and usefulness. There are various Occupations and Gifts for which they are seated in their tiny chairs beside little tables, and it is a busy scene as they build, weave, design, model in clay, or work in sand. Through these various forms of activity they come into intimate acquaintance with many objects, and lay foundation principles of mathematics, geography and natural history, while eye and ear are trained to observe and discriminate.

Apart from any distinctly spiritual blessing, the moral benefit from such a training must be great, for control gained over the body and mind helps to build up the moral being, and implants tendencies for good, not that kindergarten children can be made faultless, but loving, Christian influences are of incalculable importance during the formative years. There are tender graces which, if cherished, may develop into habits of purity and righteousness, and principles, which, if established, will prove a safeguard against the contraction of evil habits. Well did the Jesuits realize the importance of early influence when they said that if they had a child for the first seven years they would not care what was 'done with him afterwards.

Mrs. Sara Mille Keiby, writing on this subject, emphasizes another aspect of the kindergarten in mission schools. She says, "The actual teaching, though the most important, is yet only one part of the work. Here the kindergartner becomes the visitor, friend, confidante, and counsellor of the parents; the instrument for relieving suffering, finding work, arousing to better lives, teaching the mothers how to care intelligently for their little ones; stimulating an interest in sewing, cooking, and sanitary laws. The kindergartner's work here