

my services for forty-four years. Should life and health be spared, I hope to do more for the rising race. Do all you can to promote industry, temperance, and pure religion, with good economy. Two little children in this city, by taking milk instead of tea and toast, have saved in two years £2 12s. This is a hint to those who waste much property and injure their health by luxuries and vain amusements.

Your friend,

T. OSGOOD.

TEACHER'S CORNER.

A Teacher's Experience.

Dear reader! be charitable in your opinion, and be not hasty in your conclusions, but bear with me patiently while I as briefly as possible relate my experience as a teacher. Surely to know the errors and failings into which another has fallen, will serve as a warning to those who are engaged in similar occupations to avoid them.

In March of 1848 I visited the Sabbath school of our village, in which, for several years I had formerly been a scholar. Why I went I know not, unless it was to follow an inclination, for I had no motive. While there I was requested to take a class, which for some time had no regular teacher. To this I readily consented, as thoughtlessly as though I was going to drive cattle. My class was composed of six boys between the ages of 7 and 9—*as mischievous, idle, and irreverent as ever human nature produced.* Unfit as I was to become the teacher of such a class, their conduct and its effect upon me soon made me more so. They vexed me sorely by their tricks, inattention, and misbehaviour, that I, impatient and angry, would often determine never again to go into the school as a teacher. These feelings with the improper methods of correction which they led me to adopt, it may well be supposed did not make matters any more comfortable, or more useful, and very soon my class became annoying to the whole school. Scolding and threatening had no effect but to increase the occasions for them, and discouraged, I had resolved to give up the undertaking altogether. Yet my interest had been awakened, and I found that I had formed an attachment to my class which could not so easily be broken; and I thought that I would go again on the next Sabbath, talk plainly to the boys, give them reasons why they should behave themselves properly, and see what the effect would be.

I went and for the first time perceived that I had become more to blame than my scholars,

that my own conduct had been very unbecoming, and that if I wished for success, I must adopt a different course. With what earnestness I prayed for ability and grace to enable me properly to do my duty I cannot express. I had thought that I had prayed before, but I had not; my petitions were only the repetition of words whose meaning I did not realize.

Oh! my brethren, how many of us there are who are in the same situation; how many more who *never* pray or even repeat a prayer, and then we wonder (is there reason?) that we have no success, no pleasure in teaching. God was pleased to answer my prayer and in a measure to grant my request.

My own conduct and the conduct of my class improved, and for it I felt thankful, but still not satisfied with myself, for although I had as I hoped, truly repented of my sins and trusted in Jesus for salvation and I hoped that my sins were forgiven me, yet I was ashamed and afraid to acknowledge this by a public profession. Conscience continually troubled me, accusing me of ingratitude, while the thought that I was recommending to others Him of whom I was ashamed filled my mind with most discouraging feelings. How could I expect them to believe in one, whom I myself was unwilling to acknowledge. Such thoughts had their proper effect; they led me to feel the guilt which I was thus incurring, they humbled me, and led me to constant, earnest prayer. Through grace, thus obtained, I at length professed my faith and became a member of the visible church. And permit me here to urge,—to entreat,—any who are in the same situation as I was before professing and uniting with the church, to rest not, nor cease to pray, until they are induced to follow the example of one who has not since failed to regret that he deferred so plain a duty for so long a time.

This duty and the privileges which accompanied it wrought a great change in both myself and my class. They began to regard me as feeling the solemnity of what I told them, were more attentive and respectful. I had discovered the true fountain of all saving knowledge, and from thence I hope that I have and still do obtain many lessons profitable both to myself and the little ones whom God has committed to my care.

These I trust, through God's blessing, upon my endeavors, will be brought to a similar experience of God's saving grace and that I will be allowed to spend a happy eternity with them and many of the readers of this article, some of whom I hope will be excited to duty by it, and all of whom I would entreat to see to it; to make it the subject of frequent, earnest prayer, that they may find that sweet peace in full dependence upon Jesus which all who seek earnestly shall surely obtain.

A TEACHER.

—Sunday-school Journal.