

# The Teachers Monthly

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1909 ought to be a great Missionary year in the Sunday Schools, both in the way of missionary study and missionary givings. The Lessons, for the whole year, are from The Acts of the Apostles. The Apostles were the greatest of all missionaries. The Book ought to be a familiar one, by the year's end, and side by side with the study of it should go, in each School, planning for greater missionary activity, and for better methods of giving to the extension of Christ's kingdom in the world.

## In Step With the Apostles

The deepest revelation of the gospel is the new life in Jesus Christ. The one chief task of those to whom that new life first came was to tell the story of it to others, who had it not. The apostles were men chosen and sent to tell that wondrous story. The Acts of the Apostles is the narrative of their telling of it.

Strangely modern that work of the apostles and early disciples; for is not the new life in Christ as fresh for every new believer, as it was to those to whom Christ first imparted it? And is not the work of missions, which so fills the horizon of the church to-day, just the telling men whence that life comes, and how the priceless gift may be obtained?

Unchanged, too, is the motive which led the faithful in the early church gladly to endure toil and suffering in their declaration of the message of life. They loved Him who had died to give that life, as do we now, loved Him with a passionate love, which made no reckoning of obstacles or hardships, if but His will were obeyed.

And the power which made their testimony

fruitful to new life in the souls of their fellow men, is still poured out on all who seek to be thus endowed. The Holy Spirit of God, in His fulness, is ours, as He was theirs, for the asking.

As, in the studies of the present year, we keep step with the Christians of that blessed morning dawn of Christ's kingdom on the earth, in their labors to make known the name of the Prince of Life, let us covet earnestly their vivid experience of the new life in Him, their love and their zeal, and their endowment with His Spirit from above, in whose might their work prevailed.

## A Message from the Empty Nests

*By Rev. Principal E. H. Brandt*

In spite of its many sports, winter is a sad season. There is not much for the eyes to admire: all trees, all fields, are alike, the silence of death is everywhere.

But amongst the victims of death there are things which bring deep thoughts to us. Walking over the snow, under the great trees about our Schools, I can see, hanging on the branches, the empty nests of last summer. I like to see them and let them speak to me. It is not much,—just a little bit of mud, hair, and straw; but there is a message to us from these deserted homes of the dwellers of the air.

The first message is from the makers of the nests. The birds came in the spring, sang their songs of love, and decided to put the nest in a certain place. Then they went, with perseverance, on the roads, in the fields, in the woods, to get the materials. All the work went on, till its completion, with the