

rits of my blessed Redeemer.' ”

He lived to give evidence of his conversion. It was my privilege to be with him when, calmly resting in the dying love of his Saviour, he passed, we trust, from earth to heaven.—*American Messenger.*

### WHY JOHNNY LIKED THE MINISTER.

“Oh! wasn't that a good minister we had to day?” said Johnny.

“Yes, very good. Which sermon did you like best?” said his teacher.

“Oh! I don't know. It wasn't the sermons altogether that I mean.”

“What then?”

“Why he prayed for Sunday schools and boys so good; I never heard any one pray so much for boys. Most of them do not. That is why I liked him.”

“Do you not like to be prayed for?”

“Why, yes, of course I do.”

“The minister prayed to-day that all the boys might be Christ's boys. Did you like that?”

“Yes, I prayed as hard as I could that I might be. When we hear people praying for us it makes us think it is about time to be praying for ourselves. If children don't like to say much about good things, I guess they all like to have the minister remember them. I always watch and see if they pray for young folks; if they don't I think they won't have much in the sermon either. Then of course I don't listen as well as I should if I thought there was something for me.”

### HOW TO RETAIN THE OLDER BOYS IN THE SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

BY REV. SEPTIMUS JONES.

The Sunday school was practically a failure unless it served as a nursery of the church. The Sunday school, as the handmaid of the Lord and His Church, was to take children by the hand and never let them go until it had led them up to confirmation and a hearty self-dedication unto Jesus, and, through the gates of the Holy Communion, into full fellowship with Christ's body and into

active loving service in Christ's vineyard.

The Saviour compares his kingdom or Church to a net, a draw or drag net. Our Sunday school net has some weak places or gaps in it. Our senior scholars, the lads more especially, just at that very time when they most need care and guidance, are allowed to go away, and it is too often the case that our senior pupils after confirmation leave the Sunday school and even cease to be habitual worshippers in the house of God.

We have need to mend our Sunday school nets. Certain gaps or holes in the net were pointed out, and remedies recommended.

1. The prompt and early and considerate recognition of adolescents as men and women—encouraging them to put away childish things—treating them as responsible—distinguishing them from the younger pupils.

2. The setting apart of a separate room, or vestry, or a particular portion of the room or of the church for their special accommodation—having, when the class is large, a separate library.

3. A higher and more attractive order of teaching especially adapted to their needs. Our best educated members to be implored to take hold of this noble work.

4. Occasional teachers who happen to be without a class, adult visitors, especially the parents and guardians should frequently come and seat themselves beside the senior pupils.

5. Notice should be taken of our senior scholars on the week-day, and an interest manifested in their temporal welfare.

6. Diligent instruction upon their minds that Christians must be workers in the church—training them to be teachers.

7. The employment of the senior pupils in suitable offices connected with the Sunday school and church. The choir;—gathering up of Sunday school liturgies, &c., after Sunday school taking up collection—showing strangers to seats—calling to inquire after absent Sunday school pupils—taking place of absent teachers—visiting and reading with the sick, aged, and infirm, &c. &c.