

The Teachers Monthly

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The Special Feature of the present issue is five articles under the general heading of, Power, and its Secret. They are commended to the very earnest attention of our readers. The only teaching which is effective, is that which carries with it the power from on high.

“As Thy Soul Prospereth”

By Rev. J. M. Duncan, B.D.

The soul of prosperity is the prosperity of the soul. “That thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth,” so prays the apostle of love for his “well-beloved Gaius.” The highest strength is not physical, but spiritual. The truest riches are not the seen, but the unseen. Those pleasures are most worth while, which we share, not with the beasts, but with God.

Soul prosperity lies within the reach of all. Like the wealth of our vast Canadian forests, like the productive power in the countless acres of our rolling prairies, like the treasures stored up in our widely scattered mines, there lie all about us the resources that enrich the soul. All the elevating and ennobling influences of home and church and school are ours. Companions and the Companion, books and the Book, all that the race has achieved in the realms of the true, the good, and the beautiful, offer their ministries to fill up the cravings that will not be satisfied with the world's choicest gifts.

The supply for the soul's longings is free to all. “Without money and without price”, are the terms on which it is offered. Only the learned in science can analyze the atmosphere into its elements, and separate the sun's ray into the colors

of the spectrum. But the most ignorant can breathe the fresh air of heaven, and bask in its blessed sunshine. Blessings for the soul are like the air and the sunlight—they are the heritage of all mankind. Our title to them no one can dispute. To the covenant that secures them God has set His seal, and it can never be broken.

The soul that is prospering will long to share its prosperity with others. Along with getting comes the impulse to give. And, by a paradox that is always true, the more we impart, the richer we shall become. Both the desire and the capacity to receive increase with the largeness and the self-sacrifice of our gifts. There is never any lack to the liberal soul. No one will ever want any good thing, who seeks with all his heart the good of others.

“Standing Still”

By Rev. Gordon Dickie, M.A.

As a rule, the phrase “standing still” has a very disagreeable flavor. It suggests idleness, for one thing, and that is surely a crime in this busy, workaday world in which we live. The man who fritters away his time, and is no farther along at the end of the day than at the beginning, is like the drone in the beehive—the sooner he gets out the better. Doubtless it was a man of this class who, when asked how he spent his time, replied, “Sometimes I sit and think, and sometimes I just sit.”

For the Sunday School scholar the phrase has perhaps a still more ominous sound. The teacher has taught him that standing still really means going behind. Failure to take a step forward is nothing else than a step backward. He who stays behind, soon goes