

might keep it, and she would give a trifle for her in her name. She answered, "Who is so great a debtor to the Saviour as I am? It is too small? I will go and borrow another."

TEACHER'S CORNER.

Annual Report of the Union.

In the present number of the "*Record*" we continue our extracts from the last Annual Report of the Union, even to the exclusion of extracts of another character, which we usually select for the benefit of Teachers, under the impression that they will find much cause for encouragement in seeing what is actually being done in our own province, in the important field which they themselves cultivate :

With regard to the course or plan of instruction pursued in the schools, while we are quite aware that there is room for improvement in the mode of tuition in several, we entertain no doubt that each successive year witnesses a commendable progress herein on the part of conscientious teachers, who fail not to avail themselves of the suggestions brought under their notice, from time to time, in the pages of the *Record*, in the Appendix to each Annual Report of this Union, and from other sources. From a careful perusal of the details under this head, we are satisfied that many schools, especially in the cities and larger towns, are under a highly efficient system of superintendence and class instruction.

In reply to the query, "How many children and youth may there be in your vicinity who do not attend any Sabbath School?" about one-half of the answers represent a total of upwards of 1200. And we are given to understand that in very many localities where there are desirable openings and urgent calls for the establishment of schools, the good work cannot be commenced for want of superintendents and teachers willing to undertake the responsibility. Herein truly "is the harvest great, but the labourers few;" and there is an urgent call for earnest prayer to the Lord of the harvest that He would be pleased speedily to send willing and competent labourers into this harvest.

CONCLUSION.

In closing this Report, your Committee, taking into account that a favourable testimony has been uniformly borne to the beneficial influence which has been produced by Sabbath Schools wherever they have been established, are deeply impressed with the conviction that the members and friends of the Canada Sunday School Union have abundant reason to "thank God and take courage," and to redouble their efforts in the promotion

of a cause, whose success, viewed even in the light of patriotism and philanthropy, and apart from its highest and intrinsic blessings, is calculated, far beyond any other agency, to diminish the inmates of our gaols, penitentiaries, and poor-houses, and in the same degree to relieve the community from the taxation necessary for their maintenance. The beneficial influence of the schools is acknowledged, especially in reference to the observance of the Sabbath. In such results, all Christian men will rejoice, as they look on the state of Sabbath observance in any community as the thermometer of its religion, and are persuaded that the Divine Law no more connives at a little Sabbath-breaking than at a little stealing or perjury, and that, wherever the holy observance of the Lord's Day has been discarded in whole or in part, it has universally proved the loss of vital Christianity. Your Committee feel that they cannot better discharge their deep responsibility to the Supreme Being, and to society, than by contributing to the utmost of their ability to imbue the minds and hearts of the rising generation with the truths of the Bible. In fine, your Committee would reiterate the sentiment couched in the verses of the Christian poet, when he says—

"That we are bound to cast the minds of youth
Betimes, into the mould of Heavenly Truth;
That taught of God, they may indeed be wise,
Nor, ignorantly wandering, miss the skies."

From the returns sent to the committee we select the following items, as examples of the success of the Sabbath School cause, from different parts of the province :—

INFLUENCE OF THE SABBATH SCHOOL ON THE COMMUNITY.

Were we to compare the state of things before the school was in operation, with the present state of things, we would be fully warranted in saying that its influence has been decidedly favourable. There appears a greater regard, in general, to the Sabbath and its sacred exercises.

Some of our youth, who have now become men and women, express their thankfulness for the instructions they received when attending this Sabbath School, in their earlier days.

The influence of the school on the youth of the community is good. They have few opportunities of hearing a preached Word, and were it not for the Sabbath School, would probably spend the Sabbath in idleness.

It has a good effect generally in the neighbourhood, and the parents express much gratitude for the instruction their children receive. Since the formation of the school in 1840, 249 children have been brought under instruction; some instances of death have occurred, in which much encouragement was given to continued activity and energy.

Most beneficial. The books are read eagerly in all the families; and many careless